THE PSALTER OF THE PROPHET AND KING DAVID

According to the Septuagint

With the Nine Odes and an explanation of how the Psalter should be read throughout the whole year

After the use of the Orthodox Church

Shrewsbury
2004

THE PSALTER OF THE PROPHET AND KING DAVID

This English translation of the Psalter of the Orthodox Church from the Greek of the Septuagint is offered for the service of the Church by an English Orthodox layman. In the Church's services the Psalter is by far the most widely used Book of the Old Testament. This version of the Psalter is arranged in the twenty sections or kathismata, which are read through once a week in the services of Vespers and Matins. The verse division and layout follow that of the standard Psalter of the Greek Orthodox Church published by Apostoliki Diakonia of Athens: they differ in many minor respects from Rahlf's critical edition of the Septuagint. Proper names are given in their Greek form.

Five English translations of the Septuagint Psalter have been published since the eighteenth century. One of these also, The Psalter According to the Seventy of the Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Boston, is arranged for liturgical use. But the following version seeks to be faithful both to the Septuagint and to English culture: to achieve this it takes the King James Bible as its base text and amends it only where it differs from the standard printed text of the Septuagint used in the Greek Orthodox Church.

In this it follows the example of Bishop Kallistos (Ware) and Mother Mary, who took for their model the language of the King James Bible. In their words (1): "As we see it, the language of the Authorized (i.e. King James) Version is best adapted to convey the spirit of the original liturgical Greek. We do not dispute the necessity for more modern translations of Scripture, and their great value - in certain contexts: but for our present purpose it was the Authorized Version that provided what we most required. For three centuries and more the Authorized Version, and along with it the Anglican Book of Common Prayer, have provided the words with which English- speaking peoples throughout the world have addressed God; and these two books have become a part not only of our literary but of our spiritual inheritance." Quite so:

and the widespread success of their translations of The Festal Menaion and The Lenten Triodion with English-speaking Orthodox parishes at home and abroad only confirms what Mother Mary and Bishop Kallistos wrote in 1969.

In conclusion, my aim has been as far as possible to produce a translation such as the King James translators might have produced if they had been working from the Septuagint instead of the Hebrew. If this version of the Psalter finds any favour with English-speaking Orthodox, 1 hope in time to produce a complete 'KJV-Septuagint' Old Testament. Meantime, 1 am happy for anyone who wishes to use this Psalter to make hard copies of it. 1 shall also be glad to receive any comments or suggestions that may help to make it better.

Michael Asser
2005

1 Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware, The Festal Menaion, translated from the original Greek, Faber and Faber, 1969: pp. 13-14

THE SONG OF DAVID THE PROPHET AND KING

THE FIRST KATHISMA

PSALM 1

Of David, untitled in the Hebrew.

Blessed is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seat of the pestilent.

But his will is in the law of the Lord, and in his law shall he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like the tree planted by the rivers of waters, that shall bring forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not fall, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The ungodly are not so, not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away from the face of the earth.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

PSALM 2

A Psalm of David.

Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers took counsel together, against the Lord, and against his Christ, saying,

Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their yoke from us.

He that dwelleth in the heavens shall laugh at them, and the Lord shall have them in derision.

Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

But I was established king by him upon his holy mountain of Sion, declaring the decree of the Lord.

The Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

Thou shalt shepherd them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessels.

Be wise now therefore, O ye kings; be instructed, all ye judges of the earth.

Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice in him with trembling.

Embrace instruction, lest the Lord be angry, and ye perish from the righteous way, when his wrath is kindled suddenly.

Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

PSALM 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from the presence of his son Abessalom in the desert.

Lord, how are they increased that trouble me? Many are they that rise up against me.

Many there be which say to my soul, There is no salvation for him in his God.

But thou, O Lord, art my helper; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy mountain.

I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the Lord will help me.

I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about.

Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for thou hast smitten all them that are mine enemies without a cause; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

Salvation belongeth unto the Lord, and thy blessing is upon thy people.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 4

Unto the end: in hymns, a song of David among the Psalms.

Thou hast heard me when I called, O God of my righteousness; thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress. Have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.

O ye sons of men, how long will ye be heavy of heart? Why do ye love vanity, and seek after lying?

But know that the Lord hath made his holy one marvellous; the Lord will hear me when I cry unto him.

Be ye angry, and sin not; be sorry upon your beds for what ye say in your hearts.

Offer the sacrifice of righteousness, and put your trust in the Lord. There be many that say, Who will show us good things? The light of thy countenance is signed upon us, O Lord.

Thou hast put gladness in my heart; from the fruit of their corn, and wine and oil are they increased.

I will both lay me down in peace and sleep; for thou, Lord, only hast made me to dwell in hope.

PSALM 5

Unto the end: a Psalm of David, for her that obtained the inheritance.

Give ear to my words, O Lord; understand my cry. Hearken unto the voice of my supplication, my King, and my God; for unto thee will I pray, O Lord.

My voice shalt thou hear in the morning; in the morning will I stand before thee, and thou shalt look upon me; for thou art not a God that willest iniquity.

Neither shall the evil doer dwell with thee, nor shall transgressors continue in thy sight.

Thou hast hated all workers of iniquity; thou shalt destroy all them that speak leasing.

The Lord will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make my way straight before thy face.

For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is vain.

Their throat is an open sepulchre, they deceived with their tongues; judge thou them, O God.

Let them fall by their own counsels, cast them out in the multitude of their ungodliness; for they have embittered thee, O Lord.

But let all those that put their hope in thee be glad; they shall rejoice for ever, and thou shalt dwell among them. And all they that love thy name shall glory in thee,

For thou wilt bless the righteous. O Lord, thou hast crowned us as with a shield of thy favour.

PSALM 6

Unto the end: a Psalm of David, among the songs for the eighth.

O Lord, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

Have mercy upon me, O God, for I am weak. O Lord, heal me, for my bones are vexed; my soul also is sore vexed: but thou, O Lord, how long?

Return, O Lord, deliver my soul; oh save me for thy mercy's sake.

For in death there is none that is mindful of thee, and in hell who shall give thee thanks?

I have laboured with my groaning; every night will I wash my bed, I will water my couch with my tears.

Mine eye is troubled because of wrath; I have waxed old among all mine enemies.

Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity, for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

The Lord hath heard my supplication; the Lord hath received my prayer.

Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed; let them be turned back, and be ashamed suddenly.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 7

A Psalm of David, which he sang to the Lord about the words of Chusi, the son of Jemeni.

O Lord my God, in thee have I put my hope; save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me.

Lest he seize my soul like a lion, while there is none to deliver or to save.

O Lord my God, if I have done this; if there be iniquity in my hands;

If I have rewarded evils unto them that rewarded me evils, then let me fall empty from mine enemies.

Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take it; yea, let him tread down my life upon the earth, and lay my glory in the dust.

Arise, O Lord, in thine anger; lift up thyself in the uttermost borders of thine enemies.

And awake, O Lord my God, in the commandment that thou hast commanded, and a congregation of the people shall compass thee about. For their sakes therefore return thou on high.

The Lord shall judge the people. Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness, and according to mine innocence that is in me.

Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but direct thou the just, O God, that searchest the hearts and reins.

Righteous is my help from God, which saveth the upright in heart.

God is a righteous judge, strong and forbearing, and inflicteth not anger every day.

If ye turn not, he will furbish his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.

And he hath prepared on it the instruments of death; he hath ordained his arrows for them that burn.

Behold, he hath travailed with iniquity; he hath conceived toil, and brought forth wickedness.

He opened a pit, and digged it, and shall fall into the ditch which he made.

His travail shall return upon his own head, and his unrighteousness shall come down upon his own pate.

I will praise the Lord according to his righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

PSALM 8

Unto the end: a Psalm of David over the winepresses.

O Lord our Lord, how wonderful is thy name in all the earth! for thy majesty is exalted above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast thou perfected praise because of thine enemies, that thou mightest destroy the enemy and the avenger.

For I will consider the heavens, the works of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained.

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels; thou hast crowned him with glory and honour, and hast made him to have dominion over the works of thy hands.

Thou hast put all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field.

The fowls of the air, and the fish of the sea, that pass through the paths of the sea.

O Lord our Lord, how wonderful is thy name in all the earth!

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE SECOND KATHISMA

PSALM 9

Unto the end: concerning the hidden things of the son, a Psalm of David.

I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth all Thy marvellous works.

I will be glad and rejoice in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou Most High.

When mine enemies are turned back, they shall be weakened, and perish at Thy presence.

For Thou hast maintained my right and my cause; Thou satest in the throne, O Thou that judgest righteousness.

Thou hast rebuked the heathen, and the ungodly hath perished; Thou hast put out his name for ever and ever.

The swords of the enemy have utterly failed, and Thou hast destroyed his cities.

His memorial is perished with a noise, but the Lord endureth for ever.

He hath prepared His throne for judgment, and He shall judge the world in righteousness, He shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

The Lord also is become a refuge for the poor, a seasonable help in times of trouble.

And let them that know Thy name put their hope in Thee; for Thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek Thee.

Sing praises to the Lord, which dwelleth in Sion; declare among the people His doings.

For He that maketh inquisition for blood hath remembered them; He hath not forgotten the cry of the poor.

Have mercy upon me, O God; consider my humiliation which I suffer of them that hate me, Thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:

That I may show forth all Thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion: we will rejoice in Thy salvation.

The heathen are stuck fast in the destruction that they made; in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

The Lord is known by the judgments which He executeth; the wicked is snared in the works of his own hands.

Let the wicked be turned into hell, all the nations that forget God.

For the needy shall not alway be forgotten; the patience of the poor shall not perish for ever.

Arise, O Lord, let not man prevail; let the heathen be judged in Thy sight.

O Lord, set a lawgiver over them; let the nations know themselves to be but men.

Why hast Thou stood afar off, O Lord? Why dost Thou despise us in times of trouble?

Whilst the wicked man is proud, the poor man burneth within; they are taken in the devices that they have imagined.

For the wicked praiseth himself for his heart’s desires, and the unrighteous blesseth himself therein.

The wicked hath provoked the Lord; in the multitude of his wrath he careth not; God is not in his sight.

His ways are always profaned; Thy judgments are removed out of his sight; he will get dominion over all his enemies.

For he hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved; from generation to generation I shall be without adversity.

His mouth is full of cursing and bitterness and fraud; under his tongue is toil and travail.

He sitteth in ambush with the rich in secret places, that he may kill the innocent; his eyes are set against the poor.

He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den; he lieth in wait to catch the poor, to catch the poor when he draweth him in to him.

In his net will he humble himself; he will crouch and fall when he shall have power over the poor.

For he hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten; He hath turned away His face, that He may never see.

Arise, O Lord my God, let Thine hand be lifted up; forget not Thy poor to the end.

Wherefore hath the wicked provoked God? For he hath said in his heart, He will not require it.

Thou seest it, for Thou beholdest labour and wrath, to deliver him into Thy hands.

The poor hath been left unto Thee, for Thou art the helper of the fatherless.

Break Thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man; his sin shall be sought out, and shall be found no more.

The Lord is king for ever and ever; ye heathen shall perish out of His land.

Lord, Thou hast heard the desire of the poor; Thine ear hath been attentive to the preparation of their heart.

To judge for the fatherless, and for the humble; that man may no more presume to magnify himself upon earth.

PSALM 10

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

In the Lord have I put my hope; how say ye to my soul, Flee as a sparrow to the mountains?

For lo, the wicked bent their bow, they made ready their arrows for the quiver, that they may shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.

For they have destroyed the things that Thou hast made; but what hath the righteous done?

The Lord is in His holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold the poor, His eyelids try the children of men.

The Lord trieth the righteous and the wicked; but he that loveth unrighteousness hateth his own soul.

Upon the wicked He shall rain snares; fire and brimstone and wind of tempest shall be the portion of their cup.

For the Lord is righteous, and loveth righteousness; His countenance hath beheld uprightness.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 11

Unto the end: for the eighth, a Psalm of David.

Save me, O Lord, for there is no more a righteous man, for truths are failing from among the children of men.

They have spoken vanity, every one with his neighbour; with deceitful lips and with a double heart have they spoken.

The Lord cut off all deceitful lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things;

Who have said, Our tongue will we magnify, our lips are our own; who is lord over us?

For the misery of the poor, and the groaning of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord. I will set them in salvation, I shall be revealed therein.

The words of the Lord are pure words; as silver that is fired, tried in the earth, purified seven times.

Thou shalt keep us, O Lord, and preserve us from this generation, and for ever.

The ungodly walk on every side; according to Thy highness hast Thou esteemed the children of men.

PSALM 12

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

How long wilt Thou forget me, O Lord, for ever? How long wilt Thou turn away Thy face from me?

How long shall I take counsel in my soul, with sorrow in my heart day and night?

How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

Consider and hear me, O Lord my God; lighten my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him.

Those that trouble me will rejoice when I am moved, but I have trusted in Thy mercy.

My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation; I will sing unto the Lord, which hath dealt bountifully with me, and I will sing unto the name of the Lord Most High.

PSALM 13

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.

They are corrupt, and are become abominable in their ways; there is none that doeth good, no not one.

The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, or seek God.

They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Shall all the workers of iniquity have no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread? They have not called upon the Lord.

There were they in great fear, where there is no fear; for the Lord is in the generation of the righteous.

Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, but the Lord is his hope.

Who shall give the salvation of Israel out of Sion? When the Lord bringeth back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 14

A Psalm of David.

Lord, who shall abide in Thy tabernacle, and who shall dwell in Thy holy mountain?

He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

He that hath not deceived with his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbour, nor taken up a reproach against his neighbour.

In whose eyes the evildoer is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord.

He that sweareth to his neighbour, and forsweareth not; he that hath not put his money out to usury, nor taken bribes against the innocent.

He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

PSALM 15

A pillar inscription for David.

Preserve me, O Lord, for in Thee have I hoped. I said unto the Lord, Thou art my God, for Thou hast no need of my goods.

To the saints that are in his land hath the Lord been wondrous; He hath wrought all His desires in them.

Their infirmities were multiplied; they hastened afterwards.

Their meetings for blood will I not assemble, nor take up their names into my lips.

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup; it is Thou that shalt restore mine inheritance to me.

The lines are fallen unto me among the best places, for mine inheritance is most excellent to me.

I will bless the Lord, who hath given me understanding; my reins also have instructed me till the night season.

I have seen the Lord always before me, because He is at my right hand, that I may not be moved.

Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also shall rest in hope.

For Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption.

Thou hast shown me the paths of life, with Thy presence shalt Thou fill me with joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

PSALM 16

A prayer of David.

Hear my right, O Lord; attend unto my supplication. Give ear unto my prayer, that goeth not out of feigned lips.

Let my judgment come forth from Thy presence; let mine eyes behold the things that are equal.

Thou hast proved mine heart, Thou hast visited it in the night; Thou hast tried me by fire, and unrighteousness hath not been found in me.

That my mouth may not speak the works of men, for the sake of the words of Thy lips have I kept hard ways.

Set Thou my goings in Thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.

I have cried, for Thou hast heard me, O God; incline Thine ear unto me, and hear my words.

Let Thy mercies be made marvellous, O Thou that savest them which put their trust in Thee. From them that have resisted Thy right hand, keep me, O Lord, as the apple of Thine eye.

Thou wilt shelter me with the shelter of Thy wings, from the face of the ungodly, who have afflicted me.

Mine enemies have compassed my soul; they are enclosed in their own fat, their mouth hath spoken proudly.

They have cast me forth, and have now compassed me about; they have set their eyes bowing down to the earth.

They have taken me, like as a lion that is ready for his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.

Arise, O Lord, prevent them, and supplant them; deliver my soul from the wicked, Thy sword from the enemies of Thine hand.

From Thy few of the earth do Thou separate them in their life, O Lord; their belly hath been filled with Thy hid treasure.

They have satisfied themselves with swine, and have left the rest of their substance to their babes.

As for me, I shall appear before Thy face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when Thy glory shall appear to me.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE THIRD KATHISMA

PSALM 17

Unto the end: for David, the servant of the Lord, who spake the words of this song in the day wherein the Lord delivered him from the hand of his enemies, and from the hand of Saul; and he said,

I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my refuge, and my deliverer.

My God is my helper, and in Him will I hope; my defender, and the horn of my salvation, and my helper.

I will call upon the name of the Lord with praise, and I shall be saved from mine enemies.

The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of iniquity sore troubled me.

The sorrows of hell compassed me about; the snares of death prevented me.

And in mine affliction I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God.

He heard my voice out of His holy temple, and my cry before Him shall come into His ears.

And the earth shook and trembled, the foundations also of the mountains were troubled and shaken, because God was wroth with them.

There went up a smoke in His wrath, and fire from His countenance set all aflame; coals were kindled by it.

He bowed the heavens also, and came down, and thick darkness was under His feet.

And He ascended upon the cherubim, and did fly; yea, He did fly upon the wings of the wind.

And He made darkness His secret place, His pavilion round about Him, dark water in the clouds of the air.

At the brightness that was before Him the clouds passed, hailstones and coals of fire.

The Lord also thundered from the heavens, and the Highest gave His voice.

Yea, He sent out His arrows, and scattered them; and He multiplied lightnings, and discomfited them.

And the springs of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were discovered, at Thy rebuke, O Lord, at the breath of the spirit of Thy wrath.

He sent from on high, and took me; He received me out of many waters.

He will deliver me from my strong enemies, and from them that hate me, for they are too strong for me.

They prevented me in the day of my trouble, but the Lord was my stay.

He brought me forth also into a large place; He will deliver me, because He delighted in me.

And the Lord will reward me according to my righteousness, and according to the cleanness of my hands will He recompense me.

For I have kept the ways of the Lord, and have not done wickedly toward my God.

For all His judgments are before me, and His statutes have not departed from me.

And I will be blameless with Him, and will keep myself from mine iniquity.

And the Lord will reward me according to my righteousness, and according to the cleanness of my hands in His eyesight.

With the holy Thou wilt be holy, and with the innocent man Thou wilt be innocent; and with the elect Thou wilt be elect, and with the perverse Thou wilt deal perversely.

For Thou wilt save the humble people, and bring down the eyes of the proud.

For Thou wilt light my lamp, O Lord my God; Thou wilt enlighten my darkness.

For by Thee shall I be delivered from a troop of thieves, and by my God shall I leap over a wall.

As for my God, His way is blameless; the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; He is the defender of all those that hope in Him.

For who is God save the Lord? And who is God save our God?

It is God that hath girded me with strength, and made my way blameless.

That maketh my feet like hind's feet, and setteth me upon high places.

He teacheth my hands to war; and Thou hast made mine arms as a brazen bow.

Thou hast also given me the shield of salvation, and Thy right hand hath holden me up.

And Thine instruction hath corrected me unto the end; Thine instruction it is that shall teach me.

Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, and my footsteps are not weakened.

I will pursue mine enemies, and overtake them; neither shall I turn again until they be consumed.

I will afflict them, and they shall not be able to rise; they shall fall under my feet.

For Thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle; Thou hast subdued under me then that rose up against me.

Thou hast also made mine enemies turn their backs before me, and hast destroyed them that hated me.

They cried, but there was none to save them; even unto the Lord, but He heard them not.

And I will beat them small as the dust before the face of the wind; I will trample them down as the dirt in the streets.

Deliver me from the strivings of the people; Thou shalt make the head of the heathen.

A people whom I have not known have served me; at the hearing of the ear they obeyed me.

The children of strangers lied unto me, the children of strangers waxed old, and halted from their paths.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be my God, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

It is God that avengeth me, and hath subdued the people under me; my deliverer from mine angry enemies.

Thou wilt lift me up above those that rise up against me; deliver me from the unrighteous man.

Therefore will I give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, among the heathen, and sing praises unto Thy name.

He magnifieth the salvation of His king, and worketh mercy for David His anointed, and for his seed for evermore.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 18

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork.

Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

There is no speech nor language, where their voices are not heard.

Their sound is gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.

He hath set His tabernacle in the sun, and as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,

He will rejoice as a giant to run his course. His going forth is from the end of heaven, and his circuit unto the end of it, and there is none that shall hide himself from the heat thereof.

The law of the Lord is blameless, converting souls; the testimony of the Lord is sure, giving wisdom to infants.

The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is bright, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever and ever; the judgments of the Lord are true, justified altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much precious stone; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

For Thy servant keepeth them; in keeping of them there is great reward.

Who will understand transgressions? Cleanse Thou me from my secret faults, and from those of others spare Thy servant.

If they get not dominion over me, then shall I be blameless, and I shall be clear from great transgression.

And the words of my mouth shall be such as may please, and the meditation of my heart shall be always in Thy sight,

O Lord, my helper, and my redeemer.

PSALM 19

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

The Lord hear Thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend Thee.

Send Thee help from the sanctuary, and help Thee out of Sion.

Remember all Thy sacrifices, and fatten Thy whole burnt offering.

The Lord grant Thee according to Thine own heart, and fulfil all Thy counsels.

We will rejoice in Thy salvation, and in the name of the Lord our God shall we be magnified.

The Lord fulfil all Thy petitions. Now know I that the Lord hath saved His Anointed.

He will hear him from his holy heaven; in mighty deeds is the salvation of His right hand.

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God.

They are bound, and are fallen, but we are risen, and set upright.

O Lord, save the king, and hear us in the day wherein we call upon Thee.

PSALM 20

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

The king shall be glad in Thy strength, O Lord, and in Thy salvation greatly shall he rejoice.

Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withheld the requests of his lips.

For Thou hast prevented him with the blessings of goodness; Thou hast set a crown of precious stone on his head.

He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest him length of days for ever and ever.

His glory is great in Thy salvation; glory and majesty shalt Thou lay upon him.

For Thou shalt give him blessing for ever and ever; Thou shalt make him exceeding glad with Thy countenance.

For the king hopeth in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

Let Thine hand be found on all Thine enemies; let Thy right hand find out all those that hate Thee.

For Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of Thy presence; the Lord shall trouble them in His wrath, and the fire shall devour them.

Their fruit shalt Thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from among the children of men.

For they intended evils against Thee; they imagined devices, which they shall not be able to perform.

For Thou shalt make them turn their back; Thou shalt make ready their presence among them that are Thy remnant.

Be Thou exalted, Lord, in Thine own strength; we will sing and praise Thy mighty acts.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 21

Unto the end: over the help that cometh in the morning; a Psalm of David.

O God my God, look to me; why hast Thou forsaken me? Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions.

O my God, I will cry in the daytime, but Thou wilt not hear; and in the night season, and it shall not be reputed unto folly in me.

But Thou dwellest in the holy place, O Thou praise of Israel. Our fathers hoped in Thee; they hoped, and Thou didst deliver them.

They cried unto Thee, and were delivered; they hoped in Thee, and were not ashamed.

But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and the outcast of the people.

All they that saw me laughed me to scorn; they spake with their lips, they shook their heads, saying,

He hoped in the Lord, let Him deliver him; let Him save him, seeing He delighteth in him.

For Thou are He that took me out of the womb; my hope from my mother's breasts. I was cast upon Thee from the womb. Thou art my God from my mother's belly. Be not far from me,

For trouble is near, for there is none to help.

Many bulls have compassed me; fat bulls have beset me round.

They have opened their mouths against me, as a ravening and roaring lion.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are scattered; my heart is become like wax melting in the midst of my bowels.

My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue hath cleaved to my throat; and Thou hast brought me down into the dust of death.

For many dogs have compassed me, and the assembly of the wicked have enclosed me.

They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have told all my bones; and they have looked and stared upon me.

They have parted my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

But remove not Thou Thy help far from me, O Lord; haste Thee to help me.

Deliver my soul from the sword, mine only one from the hand of the dog.

Save me from the lion's mouth, and my lowliness from the horns of unicorns.

I will declare Thy name unto my brethren; in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto Thee.

Ye that fear the Lord, praise Him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify Him.

Let all the seed of Israel fear Him.

For He hath not despised nor abhorred the supplication of the poor, neither hath He hid His face from me; but when I cried unto Him, He heard me.

My praise is of Thee in the great congregation; I will pay my vows before them that fear Him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and they shall praise the Lord that seek Him; their hearts shall live for ever and ever.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn unto the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before Him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's, and He is governor among the nations.

All they that be fat upon earth have eaten and worshipped; all they that go down to the dust shall fall down before Him.

Yea, my soul liveth to Him, and my seed shall serve Him.

The generation to come shall be told of the Lord, and they shall declare His righteousness unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made.

PSALM 22

A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want.

In a place of green pasture, there hath He made me to dwell; He hath nurtured me beside the water of rest.

He hath converted my soul; He hath led me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me.

Thy rod and Thy staff, they have comforted me.

Thou hast prepared a table before me, in the presence of them that afflict me.

Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and like the best wine doth Thy cup inebriate me.

And Thy mercy shall pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord unto length of days.

PSALM 23

A Psalm of David on the first day of the week.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and all they that dwell therein.

He hath founded it upon the seas, and prepared it upon the rivers.

Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord, or who shall stand in His holy place?

He that is innocent in hands, and pure in heart, who hath not received his soul in vain, nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbour.

He shall receive a blessing from the Lord, and mercy from God his Saviour.

This is the generation of them that seek the Lord, that seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting gates; and the King of Glory shall come in.

Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your gates, ye princes, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting gates; and the King of Glory shall come in.

Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of Glory.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE FOURTH KATHISMA

PSALM 24

A Psalm of David.

Unto Thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul.

O my God, I have trusted in Thee, let me never be ashamed; neither let mine enemies laugh me to scorn.

Yea, let none that wait on Thee be ashamed; let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

Show me Thy ways, O Lord, and teach me Thy paths.

Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me, for Thou art God my Saviour; for on Thee have I waited all the day.

Remember, O Lord, Thy tender mercies, and Thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth, and my sins of ignorance; according to Thy mercy remember Thou me, for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore will He give a law to sinners in the way.

The meek will He guide in judgment, and the meek will He teach his ways.

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, unto such as seek His covenant and His testimonies.

For Thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity, for it is great.

What man is he that feareth the Lord? Him shall He give a law in the way that He hath chosen.

His soul shall dwell among good things, and his seed shall inherit the earth.

The Lord is the strength of them that fear Him, and His covenant shall be revealed to them.

Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Look Thou upon me, and have mercy upon me; for I am an only one and poor.

The troubles of my heart are enlarged; O bring Thou me out of my necessities.

Look upon my lowliness and my toil, and forgive all my sins.

Consider mine enemies, for they are multiplied, and they have hated me with unjust hatred.

O keep my soul, and deliver me; let me not be ashamed, for I have put my trust in Thee.

The innocent and the upright have cleaved to me, for I have waited on Thee, O Lord.

Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

PSALM 25

Of David.

Judge me, O Lord, for I have walked in mine innocence; I have hoped also in the Lord, and shall not be weakened.

Prove me, Lord, and try me; try my reins and my heart with fire.

For Thy mercy is before mine eyes, and I have been well pleasing in Thy truth.

I have not sat with the council of vanity, neither will I go in with transgressors.

I have hated the congregation of evil doers, and will not sit with the ungodly.

I will wash mine hands in innocence, and compass Thine altar, O Lord; that I may hear the voice of Thy praise, and tell of all Thy wondrous works.

Lord, I have loved the beauty of Thy house, and the place where Thy glory dwelleth.

Destroy not my soul with the ungodly, nor my life with bloody men, in whose hands are iniquities; their right hand is full of bribes.

But as for me, I have walked in mine innocence; redeem me, O Lord, and be merciful unto me.

My foot hath stood in uprightness; in the congregations will I bless Thee, O Lord.

PSALM 26

Of David, before he was anointed.

The Lord is my light, and my saviour; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked came upon me to eat up my flesh, even them that afflict me and are mine enemies,

They were weakened, and fell.

Though an host should array itself against me, my heart shall not fear; Though war should rise against me, in this have I hoped.

One thing have I desired of the Lord that I will seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the delight of the Lord, and to visit His holy temple.

For in the day of my troubles He hid me in His tabernacle; in the secret of His tabernacle He sheltered me; He set me up upon a rock.

And now, behold, He hath lifted up my head above mine enemies.

I went round about, and offered in His tabernacle a sacrifice of praise and joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.

Hear my voice, O Lord, wherewith I have cried; have mercy upon me, and hear me.

My heart hath said unto Thee, I will seek the Lord. My face hath sought Thee; Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

Turn not away Thy face from me, and turn not Thou away in anger from Thy servant.

Be Thou my help, cast me not away; neither forsake me, O God my Saviour.

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord hath taken me to Himself.

Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and lead me in the right path, because of mine enemies.

Deliver me not over to the souls of those that trouble me; for unjust witnesses are risen up against me, and injustice hath lied within itself.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and let Thine heart be strengthened; and wait on the Lord.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 27

Of David.

Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord; my God, be not Thou silent unto me, lest if Thou be silent unto me, I become like them that go down into the pit.

Hear the voice of my supplication, O Lord, when I pray unto Thee, when I lift up my hands toward Thy holy temple.

Draw me not in with the wicked, and destroy me not with the workers of unrighteousness,

Which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts.

Give them, Lord, according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours. Give them after the works of their hands; render to them their desert.

Because they have not hearkened to the works of the Lord, and the operations of His hands.

Thou shalt destroy them, and not build them up.

Blessed be the Lord, because He hath heard the voice of my supplication.

The Lord is my helper and defender; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; and my flesh hath flourished anew, and willingly will I praise Him.

The Lord is the strength of His people, and the defender of the salvation of His anointed.

Save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance; shepherd them, and lift them up for ever.

PSALM 28

A Psalm of David: of the going forth of the tabernacle.

Bring unto the Lord, O ye sons of God, bring unto the Lord young rams; bring unto the Lord glory and honour.

Bring unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; worship the Lord in His holy court.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory hath thundered, the Lord is upon many waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars; yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Libanus.

And He shall break them as small as a calf of Libanus, and His beloved one is like a young unicorn.

The voice of the Lord who divideth the flame of fire.

The voice of the Lord who shaketh the wilderness; yea, the Lord shall shake the wilderness of Kaddes.

The voice of the Lord gathereth the hinds, and will discover the thickets; and in His temple doth every one speak of His glory.

The Lord dwelleth in the flood; yea, the Lord shall sit King for ever.

The Lord will give strength unto His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.

PSALM 29

To the end: a Psalm of an Ode at the dedication of the house of David.

I will exalt Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

O Lord my God, I cried unto Thee; and Thou hast healed me.

O Lord, Thou hast brought up my soul from hell; Thou hast delivered me from them that go down to the pit.

Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.

For wrath is in His anger, but in His favour is life: weeping may endure for the evening, but joy cometh in the morning.

As for me, in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.

Lord, by Thy favour Thou hast given strength unto my beauty; but Thou didst hide Thy face, and I was troubled.

I will cry to Thee, O Lord, and unto my God will I make supplication.

What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to corruption?

Shall the dust praise Thee, or shall it declare Thy truth?

The Lord heard, and had mercy upon me; the Lord is become my helper.

Thou hast turned for me my mourning into joy; Thou hast rent off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness,

To the end that my glory may sing praise to Thee, and that I be not pierced with sorrow. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto Thee for ever.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 30

Unto the end: a Psalm of David in a time of sudden fear.

In Thee, O Lord, have I put my hope, let me never be ashamed; deliver me in Thy righteousness, and rescue me.

Bow down Thine ear to me; deliver me speedily.

Be Thou unto me a defending God, and a house of refuge to save me.

For Thou art my strength and my refuge; therefore for Thy name's sake shalt Thou guide and nourish me.

Thou shalt bring me out of this snare that they have laid privily for me; for Thou art my defender, O Lord.

Into Thy hands I will commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

Thou hast hated them that hold to empty vanities, but I have hoped in the Lord.

I will be glad and rejoice in Thy mercy, for Thou hast considered my lowliness, Thou hast saved my soul out of adversities,

And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy; Thou hast set my feet in a large room.

Have mercy upon me, Lord, for I am in trouble; mine eye is troubled with anger, yea, my soul and my belly.

For my life is spent with grief, and my years with groaning; my strength hath been weakened through poverty, and my bones are troubled.

I became a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance. They that did see me without fled from me.

I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind; I am become like a broken vessel.

For I have heard the slander of many that dwell on every side; when they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

But I hoped in Thee, O Lord; I said, Thou art my God, my lots are in Thy hands.

Deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant; save me for Thy mercy's sake.

Let me not be ashamed, O Lord, for I have called upon Thee; let the wicked be ashamed, and brought down into hell.

Let the lying lips be put to silence, which speak iniquity proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

Oh how great is the multitude of Thy goodness, O Lord, which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee; which Thou hast wrought for them that trust in Thee before the sons of men!

Thou shalt hide them in the secret of Thy presence from the disturbance of men; Thou shalt keep them secretly in Thy pavilion from the strife of tongues.

Blessed be the Lord, for He hath marvellously showed His mercy in a fortified city.

But I said in my alarm, I am cut off from before Thine eyes. Nevertheless Thou heardest the voice of my supplication when I cried unto Thee.

O love the Lord, all ye His saints, for the Lord requireth truth, and rewardeth the proud doers.

Be of good courage, and let your heart be strengthened, all ye that hope in the Lord.

PSALM 31

Of David: understanding.

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose mouth there is no guile.

Because I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my crying all the day long.

For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me; I was in misery while a thorn was stuck in me.

I acknowledged my sin, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgression, against myself, unto the Lord. And Thou forgavest the ungodliness of my heart.

For this shall every one that is godly pray unto Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found; surely in the flood of great waters they shall not come nigh unto Him.

Thou art my hiding place from the trouble that compasseth me; deliver me, O my joy, from them that have compassed me about.

I will instruct thee and guide thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will fix Mine eyes upon thee.

Be ye not as the horse and mule, which have no understanding, whose jaws thou must hold in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

Many are the scourges of the wicked, but he that hopeth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous; and glory, all ye that are upright in heart.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE FIFTH KATHISMA

PSALM 32

Of David: untitled in the Hebrew.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise becometh the upright.

Praise the Lord with the harp; sing unto Him with the psaltery of ten strings.

Sing unto Him a new song; sing skilfully unto Him with jubilation.

For the word of the Lord is right, and all His works are done in faithfulness.

The Lord loveth mercy and judgment; the earth is full of the mercy of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as in a wineskin; He layeth up the depths in storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the Lord, and let all the inhabitants of the world be moved in awe of Him.

For He spake, and they were made; He commanded, and they were created.

The Lord bringeth the counsels of the heathen to nought, He setteth aside the devices of the people, and maketh the counsels of the princes to be of none effect.

But the counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance.

The Lord looked from heaven; He beheld all the sons of men.

From the place of His habitation that He prepared, He looked upon all the inhabitants of the earth.

He that alone fashioneth their heart, that considereth all their works.

There is no king saved by much power, nor shall a mighty man be delivered by the multitude of his strength.

A horse is a vain thing for safety, neither shall he be saved by his great strength.

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy.

To deliver their souls from death, and to nourish them in famine.

Our soul shall wait for the Lord, for He is our help and our defence.

For our heart shall rejoice in Him, and we have hoped in His holy name.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.

PSALM 33

For David, when he changed his appearance before Abimelech, who dismissed him; and he went away.

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul shall be praised in the Lord; let the meek hear thereof, and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name for ever.

I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my troubles.

Come unto him, and be lightened; and your faces shall not be ashamed.

This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the Lord shall encamp round about them that fear Him, and shall deliver them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that hopeth in Him.

O fear the Lord, all ye His saints; for there is no want to them that fear Him.

The rich became poor, and suffered hunger; but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing.

Come, ye children, hearken unto me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

What man is he that desireth life, that loveth to see good days?

Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

Turn away from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their supplication.

The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles.

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord shall deliver them out of them all.

The Lord keepeth all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.

The death of the sinners is evil, and they that hate the righteous shall go astray.

The Lord shall redeem the souls of His servants, and none of them that hope in Him shall go astray.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 34

Of David.

Judge Thou, O Lord, them that do me injustice; fight against them that fight against me.

Take hold of weapon and buckler, and stand up for mine help.

Draw out the sword, and stop the way against them that persecute me; say unto my soul, I am Thy salvation.

Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul; let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt.

Let them be as chaff before the face of the wind, and let the angel of the Lord afflict them.

Let their way be dark and slippery, and let the angel of the Lord persecute them.

For without cause have they hid for me destruction in their snare; without cause have they reproached my soul.

Let a snare come upon him unawares, and let the trap that he hath hid catch himself; and into that very snare let him fall.

But my soul shall be joyful in the Lord; it shall delight in His salvation.

All my bones shall say, Lord, Lord, who is like unto Thee, who deliverest the poor from the hand of them that are too strong for him, yea, the poor and the needy from them that spoil him?

False witnesses did rise up against me; they asked me things that I knew not.

They rewarded me evil for good, and bereavement to my soul.

But as for me, when they troubled me, I put on sackcloth, and humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer shall return into mine own bosom.

I sought to please, as if it had been my neighbour or brother; I bowed down heavily, as one mourning and sad of face.

But they rejoiced against me, and gathered themselves together; plagues were gathered together upon me, and I knew it not.

They were scattered, yet they repented not; they tempted me, they sneered at me with scorn, they gnashed upon me with their teeth.

Lord, when wilt Thou look upon me? Rescue my soul from their malice, mine only one from the lions.

I will give Thee thanks in the great congregation; I will praise Thee among a mighty people.

Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me, that hate me without a cause, and wink with the eye.

For they spake unto me peaceably indeed, but in their anger they devised deceits.

Yea, they opened their mouth wide against me; they said, It is well, it is well, our eyes have seen it.

This Thou hast seen, O Lord, keep not silence; O Lord, be not far from me.

Rise up, Lord, and attend to my judgment, even unto my cause, my God and my Lord.

Judge me, O Lord, according to Thy righteousness; let them not rejoice over me, O Lord my God.

Let them not say in their hearts, It is well, it is well, to our soul! Neither let them say, We have swallowed him up.

Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together that rejoice at my woes. Let them be clothed with shame and confusion that magnify their words against me.

Let them rejoice and be glad, that favour the righteousness of my cause; and let them that desire the peace of Thy servant say continually, Let the Lord be magnified.

And my tongue shall speak of Thy righteousness, and of Thy praise all the day long.

PSALM 35

Unto the end: of David, the child of the Lord.

The transgressor, that he may sin, saith within himself that there is no fear of God before his eyes.

For he hath dealt deceitfully with Him, lest He should find out his iniquity, and hate it.

The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit; he will not understand how to do good.

He hath devised iniquity upon his bed, he hath given himself to every way that is not good, and hath not abhorred evil.

Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens, and Thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

Thy righteousness is like the mountains of God; Thy judgments are a great deep. O Lord, Thou shalt preserve man and beast.

How hast Thou multiplied Thy mercy, O God! Let the children of men hope in the shelter of Thy wings.

They shall be drunken with the fatness of Thy house, and Thou shalt make them drink of the torrent of Thy pleasure.

For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light.

O continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee, and Thy righteousness to the upright in heart.

Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.

There are all the workers of iniquity fallen; they are cast out, and shall not be able to stand.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 36

Of David.

Fret not thyself because of evil doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

For they shall soon be withered like the grass, and shall quickly fall away, like the green herb.

Hope in the Lord, and do good; and dwell in the land, and thou shalt be fed with its riches.

Delight thyself in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Disclose thy way unto the Lord; hope also in him; and He shall bring it to pass.

And He shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

Submit thyself unto the Lord, and entreat thou Him; fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

For evil doers shall be cut off; but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be; yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and shalt not find it.

But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

The sinner shall watch for the just, and gnash upon him with his teeth.

But the Lord shall laugh at him, for He seeth that his day is coming.

The wicked have drawn out the sword, they have bent their bow; to cast down the poor and needy, to slay such as be of an upright heart.

Let their sword enter into their own heart, and let their bows be broken.

Better is a little that the righteous man hath than the many riches of the wicked.

For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the Lord upholdeth the righteous.

The Lord knoweth the ways of the blameless, and their inheritance shall be for ever.

They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

For the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord, in the moment when they are glorified and exalted, shall vanish like smoke.

The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again; but the righteous showeth mercy, and giveth.

For they that bless Him shall inherit the earth; but they that curse Him shall perish.

The steps of a man are ordered by the Lord, and He shall delight in his way.

Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholdeth his hand.

I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

The righteous is merciful, and lendeth all the day long, and his seed shall be blessed.

Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not His saints; they shall be preserved for ever. But the wicked shall be banished, and the seed of the ungodly shall be cut off.

The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

The mouth of the righteous shall speak of wisdom, and his tongue shall talk of judgment.

The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be tripped.

The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.

But the Lord will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when He judgeth him.

Wait on the Lord, and keep His way, and He shall exalt thee to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

I have seen the ungodly highly exalted, and lifting himself up like the cedars of Libanus.

Yet I passed by, and lo, he was not; yea, I sought him, but his place could not be found.

Keep innocence, and behold uprightness, for there is a remnant for the man of peace.

But the transgressors shall be destroyed together; the remnant of the ungodly shall be cut off.

But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord, and He is their defence in the time of trouble.

And the Lord shall help them, and deliver them; and He shall deliver them from the ungodly, and save them, because they have hoped in Him.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE SIXTH KATHISMA

PSALM 37

A Psalm of David: for a remembrance of the Sabbath.

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thy wrath, neither chasten me in Thy hot displeasure.

For Thine arrows are stuck fast in me, and Thou hast pressed Thine hand heavily upon me.

There is no soundness in my flesh because of Thine anger, neither is there any peace in my bones because of my sins.

For mine iniquities are gone over my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed sore upon me.

My wounds stink and are corrupt, because of my foolishness.

I am troubled and bowed down greatly; I went with mourning countenance all the day long.

For my loins are filled with mockings, and there is no healing in my flesh.

I am troubled and brought down greatly; I have roared by reason of the groaning of my heart.

Lord, all my desire is before Thee, and my groaning is not hid from Thee.

My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

My friends and my neighbours drew near and stood over against me, and my kinsmen stood afar off.

They also that sought after my life used violence, and they that sought my hurt spake vanities, and imagined deceits all the day long.

But I, as a deaf man, heard not; and I was as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth.

And I was as a man that heareth not, and in whose mouth are no reproofs.

For in Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; Thou wilt hear me, O Lord my God.

For I said, Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; for when my feet slipped, they made boast against me.

For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me.

For I will declare mine iniquity, and be sorry for my sin.

But mine enemies live, and are stronger than I, and they that hated me wrongfully are multiplied.

They that render me evils for good have slandered me, because I followed the thing that good is.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God; depart not from me.

Make haste to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 38

Unto the end: a song of David to Idithum.

I said, I will take heed to my ways, lest I sin with my tongue. I kept my mouth, as it were with a bridle, while the sinner stood before me.

I was dumb, and humbled myself, and held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was renewed.

My heart grew hot within me, and while I was musing a fire was kindled. I spake with my tongue,

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know what it is I lack.

Behold, Thou hast made my days as a handbreadth, and my being is as nothing before Thee. Verily, every man living is altogether vanity.

Surely man walketh as an image; he is disquieted in vain. He heapeth up riches, and knoweth not for whom he gathereth them.

And now what is my hope? Is it not the Lord? Yea, my hope is in Thee.

Deliver me from all my transgressions; Thou hast made me a reproach unto the foolish.

I was dumb, and opened not my mouth, for Thou hast made me.

Remove Thy scourges from me, for I have fainted by the strength of Thine hand.

Thou with rebukes hast corrected man for iniquity, and hast made his life to consume away like a spider's web; surely every man disquieteth himself in vain.

Hear my prayer, Lord, and my supplication; give ear unto my tears. Hold not Thy peace, for I am a sojourner with Thee, and a stranger, as all my fathers were.

O spare me, that I may be refreshed, before I go hence, and be no more.

PSALM 39

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

I waited patiently for the Lord, and He inclined unto me, and heard my supplication.

He brought me up also out of the pit of misery, and out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Many shall see it, and fear, and shall hope in the Lord.

Blessed is the man whose hope is in the name of the Lord, and regardeth not vanities and false frenzies.

Many, O Lord my God, are Thy wonderful works which Thou hast done; and in Thy Thoughts there is none that shall be compared to Thee. I declared and spake, They are multiplied beyond number.

Sacrifice and offering Thou didst not desire, but a body hast Thou perfected for me; burnt offering and sin offering hast Thou not required.

Then said I, Lo, I come. In the head of the book it is written of me,

That I should do Thy will, O my God; yea, Thy law is within my heart.

I have preached the good tidings of Thy righteousness in the great congregation. Lo, I shall not refrain my lips, O Lord, Thou knowest.

I have not hid Thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared Thy faithfulness and Thy salvation. I have not concealed Thy mercy and Thy truth from the great congregation.

But withhold not Thou Thy tender mercies from me, O Lord; let Thy mercy and Thy truth continually help me.

For innumerable evils have compassed me about; mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, and I am not able to see. They are multiplied more than the hairs of mine head, and my heart hath failed me.

Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it. Let them be driven backward and confounded that wish me evil.

Let them quickly receive shame for their reward that say unto me, Well well!

Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee, O Lord; and let such as love Thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified.

But I am poor and needy; the Lord will take thought for me. Thou art my help and my defender, my God; make no tarrying.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 40

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

Blessed is the man that considereth the poor and needy; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

The Lord preserve him, and keep him alive, and make him blessed upon the earth, and deliver him not into the hands of his enemies.

The Lord help him upon his bed of pain; Thou hast turned all his bed in his sickness.

I said, Lord, be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.

Mine enemies spake evil of me, saying, When shall he die, and his name perish?

And if he came to see me, his heart spake vanity; he gathered iniquity to himself; he went abroad, and spake in like manner.

All they that hate me whispered together against me; against me did they devise my hurt.

They set down a wicked word against me, saying, Shall he that sleepeth rise up again?

Yea, even the man of my peace, in whom I hoped, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

But Thou, O Lord, be merciful unto me, and raise me up; and I will requite them.

By this I know that Thou hast delighted in me, because mine enemy shall not rejoice over me.

And Thou hast helped me because of mine innocence, and hast established me before Thy face for ever.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. So be it. So be it.

PSALM 41

Unto the end: understanding for the sons of Kore.

As the hart panteth after the water springs, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.

My soul thirsted for God, the mighty, the living; when shall I come and appear before the face of God?

My tears have been my bread day and night, whilst it is said to me daily, Where is thy God?

I remembered these things, and poured out my soul within me; for I will go to the place of the wondrous tabernacle, to the house of God, with the voice of rejoicing and thanksgiving, the sound of those that keep holyday.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why dost thou disquiet me? Hope thou in God, for I will praise him, the salvation of my countenance, and my God.

My soul hath been troubled within me; therefore will I remember Thee from the land of Jordan and Hermoniim, from the little mountain.

Deep calleth unto deep at the voice of Thy cataracts; all Thy billows and Thy waves are gone over me.

The Lord will command His mercy in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me, my prayer unto the God of my life.

I will say unto God, Thou art my help; why hast Thou forgotten me? And why go I mourning while the enemy oppresseth me?

While my bones were broken, mine enemies reproached me, while they said daily unto me, Where is thy God?

Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why dost thou disquiet me? Hope thou in God, for I will praise Him, the salvation of my countenance, and my God.

PSALM 42

Unto the end: a Psalm of David. Untitled in the Hebrew.

Judge me, God, and give judgment in my cause against a nation that is not holy; deliver me from an unjust and deceitful man.

For Thou, O God, art my strength: why hast Thou cast me off, and why go I mourning while mine enemy oppresseth me?

O send out Thy light and Thy truth; they have led me, and brought me unto Thy holy mountain, and to Thy tabernacles.

And I will go unto the altar of God, unto God who giveth gladness to my youth; upon the harp will I praise Thee, O God, my God.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why dost thou disquiet me? Hope thou in God, for I shall praise Him, the salvation of my countenance, and my God.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 43

Unto the end: understanding for the sons of Kore.

We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us, the work Thou didst in their days, in the days of old.

Thine hand destroyed the heathen, and Thou plantedst them in; Thou broughtest evils upon those people, and cast them out.

For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them:

But Thy right hand, and Thine arm, and the light of Thy countenance, because Thou wast well pleased with them.

Thou Thyself art my King and my God, Thou that commandest the salvation of Jacob.

Through Thee will the horn of our strength push down our enemies, and through Thy name will we bring to nought them that rise up against us.

For I will not hope in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.

For Thou hast saved us from them that troubled us, and hast put them to shame that hated us.

In God will we boast all the day long, and in Thy name will we give thanks for ever.

But now Thou hast cast us off, and put us to shame, and Thou, O God wilt not go forth with our hosts.

Thou hast made us to turn back before our enemies, and they which hated us spoiled for themselves.

Thou hast given us like sheep to be eaten, and hast scattered us among the heathen.

Thou hast sold Thy people for nought, and there was no profit by our selling.

Thou hast made us a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

Thou hast made us a byword among the heathen, a shaking of the head among the people.

All the day long my disgrace is before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me,

For the voice of him that slandereth and revileth, by reason of the face of the enemy and pursuer.

All this is come upon us, yet have we not forgotten Thee, neither have we dealt unrighteously in Thy covenant.

And our heart is not turned back, but Thou hast turned aside our paths from Thy ways.

For Thou hast humbled us in a place of affliction, and the shadow of death hath covered us.

If we have forgotten the name of our God, and if we have stretched out our hands to a strange god,

Shall not God search this out? For He knoweth the secrets of the heart.

For Thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.

Awake, why sleepest Thou, O Lord? arise, and cast us not off for ever.

Wherefore hidest Thou Thy face? forgettest Thou our poverty and affliction?

For our soul is brought down to the dust; our belly hath cleaved unto the earth.

Arise, O Lord, help us, and redeem us for Thy name's sake.

PSALM 44

Unto the end: concerning those verses that are to be alternated; understanding for the sons of Kore. A song of the Beloved.

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

Thou art fairer than the children of men; grace is poured upon thy lips; therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.

Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O mighty one, in thy comeliness and in thy beauty.

And bend thy bow, and prosper, and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall guide thee wondrously.

Thine arrows are sharp, O mighty one (the people shall fall under thee) in the heart of the king's enemies.

Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever; the sceptre of Thy kingdom is a sceptre of uprightness.

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated wickedness; therefore God, thy God hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Myrrh and stacte and cassia are from thy garments, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad, the daughters of kings in thine honour.

Upon thy right hand did stand the queen in raiment of woven gold, arrayed in divers colours.

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house.

And the king shall greatly desire thy beauty, for he is thy lord, and thou shalt worship him.

And the daughters of Tyre shall worship him with gifts; even the rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance.

All the glory of the king's daughter is within; in fringed gold is she arrayed, wrought about with divers colours.

The virgins that follow her shall be brought unto the king; her fellows shall be brought unto thee.

With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought, they shall be brought into the temple of the king.

Instead of thy fathers sons are born to thee; thou shalt make them princes over all the earth.

I will remember thy name in every generation and generation. Therefore shall the peoples praise thee for ever, yea, for ever and ever.

PSALM 45

Unto the end: a Psalm of David for the sons of Kore, for the hidden things.

God is our refuge and strength, a help in the troubles that come heavily upon us.

Therefore will we not fear when the earth be troubled, nor when the mountains be removed into the heart of the sea.

The waters thereof roared and were troubled; the mountains were troubled by His strength.

The streams of the river make glad the city of God; the Most High hath hallowed His tabernacle.

God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her in the morning early.

The heathen were troubled, the kingdoms were moved; the Most High uttered His voice, the earth was shaken.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our helper.

Come and behold the works of God, what wonders He hath wrought upon the earth.

He maketh wars to cease unto the ends of the earth. He shall crush the bow, and shatter the weapons, and burn the shields with fire.

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our helper.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE SEVENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 46

Unto the end: a Psalm for the sons of Kore.

O clap your hands, all ye heathen; shout unto God with a voice of rejoicing.

For the Lord Most High is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.

He hath subdued the people under us, and the nations under our feet.

He hath chosen us for his inheritance, the beauty of Jacob whom He loved.

God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

Sing praises to our God, sing praises; sing praises unto our King, sing praises.

For God is the king of all the earth; sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen; God sitteth upon His holy throne.

The princes of the people are gathered together with the God of Abraham, for God's mighty ones of the earth are greatly exalted.

PSALM 47

A Psalm of praise for the sons of Kore on the second day of the week.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. Well planted, the joy of the whole earth,

On the mountains of Sion, on the sides of the north, is the city of the great king.

God is known in her palaces, when He cometh to her help.

For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together.

When they saw her so, they marvelled, they were troubled, they were moved; trembling took hold upon them, there were pains, as of a woman in travail.

With a vehement wind shalt Thou shatter the ships of Tharsis.

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God.

God hath established it for ever.

We have thought of Thy mercy, O God, in the midst of Thy people.

According to Thy name, O God, so is Thy praise unto the ends of the earth; Thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Let Mount Sion rejoice, and let the daughters of Judea be glad, because of Thy judgments, O Lord.

Walk about Sion, and go round about her; tell the towers thereof.

Mark ye well her strength in your hearts, and consider her bulwarks, that ye may tell it to the generation following.

For this is our God for ever and ever; He will shepherd us for evermore.

PSALM 48

Unto the end: a Psalm for the sons of Kore.

Hear this, all ye heathen; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world.

All ye that were born of earth, and ye sons of men; rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

I will incline mine ear to a parable; I will open my dark saying upon the psaltery.

Wherefore should I fear in the day of evil? The iniquity at my heel shall compass me about.

There be some that trust in their strength, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches.

A brother cannot redeem; shall a man redeem?

He cannot give to God a ransom for himself, nor the price of the redemption of his soul, even though he hath laboured for ever, and shall live to the end.

For he shall not see corruption, when he seeth wise men die.

The unwise and the fool shall perish together, and leave their wealth to others.

And their graves shall be their houses for ever, their dwelling places unto generation and generation; though they have called their lands after their own names.

Nevertheless, man being in honour understood not; he is like the cattle that are without understanding, and is become like unto them.

This their way is a stumbling block for them, yet afterwards they shall please with their mouth.

Like sheep they are laid in hell; death shall be their shepherd.

And the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning, and from their glory their help shall consume in hell.

But God will redeem my soul out of the hand of hell, when He shall receive me.

Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, or when the glory of his house is increased.

For when he dieth, he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him.

For his soul shall be blessed in his life; he will acknowledge Thee when Thou doest well to him.

He shall go to the generation of his fathers; he shall never see the light.

And man that is in honour, understood not; he is like the cattle that are without understanding, and is become like unto them.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 49

A Psalm of Asaph.

The God of gods, even the Lord, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.

Out of Sion is the magnificence of His beauty.

God our God shall come visibly, and shall not keep silence.

A fire shall blaze before Him, and a mighty tempest shall be round about Him.

He shall call to the heavens above; and to the earth, that He may judge His people.

Gather His saints together unto Him, those that have established His covenant upon sacrifices.

And the heavens shall declare His righteousness; for God is judge Himself.

Hear, O My people, and I will speak to thee, O Israel; and I will testify against thee; I am God, even Thy God.

I will not reprove thee for sacrifices, for thy burnt offerings are continually before Me.

I will not welcome bullocks out of thy house, nor he goats out of thy flocks.

For all the beasts of the field are Mine, the cattle upon the mountains, and the oxen.

I know all the fowls of the air, and the beauty of the fields is Mine.

If I were hungry, I would not tell thee, for the world is Mine, and all the fulness thereof.

Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

Offer unto God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay thy vows unto the Most High.

And call upon me in the day of thy trouble, and I will deliver thee; and thou shalt glorify me.

But unto the wicked God hath said, Why dost thou declare Mine ordinances, and takest My covenant in thy mouth?

Thou hast hated instruction, and hast cast My words behind thee.

When thou sawest a thief, then thou didst run with him; and thou hast been partaker with the adulterer.

Thy mouth hath multiplied evil, and thy tongue hath framed deceits.

Thou satest and spakest against thy brother, and laidst a scandal against thy mother's son.

These things hast thou done, and I kept silence. Thou thoughtest wickedly that I should be like thee; but I will reprove thee, and set thy sins before thine eyes.

Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest He snatch you away, and there be none to deliver.

A sacrifice of praise shall glorify Me, and there is the way wherein I will show him My salvation.

PSALM 50

Unto the end: a Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came to him, when he had gone in to Bersabee, the wife of Urias.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgression.

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my transgression, and my sin is ever before me.

Against Thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight; that Thou mightest be justified in Thy sayings, and overcome when Thou art judged.

For behold, I was conceived in iniquity, and in sins did my mother bear me.

For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou revealed to me.

Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that have been humbled shall rejoice.

Turn away Thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and establish me with Thy governing Spirit.

I will teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn again to Thee.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness.

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

For hadst Thou desired sacrifice, I would have given it; Thou wilt not delight in whole burnt offerings.

A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; a broken and humbled heart God will not despise.

Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded.

Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, oblation and whole burnt offerings.

Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 51

Unto the end: instruction for David, when Doek the Idumean came and told Saul, David has gone into the house of Abimelech.

Why boastest thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man, and in iniquity all the day long? Thy tongue hath devised unrighteousness; like a sharpened razor, thou hast wrought deceit.

Thou hast loved evil more than good, unrighteousness rather than to speak righteousness.

Thou hast loved all words of destruction, and a deceitful tongue.

Therefore shall God destroy thee for ever; He shall pluck thee out, and take thee away from thy dwelling place, and thy root out of the land of the living.

The righteous shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him, and say,

Lo, this is the man that made not God his help, but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his vanity.

But I am like a fruitful olive tree in the house of the Lord; I have hoped in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

I will praise Thee for ever, because Thou hast done it; and I will wait on Thy name, for it is good before Thy saints.

PSALM 52

Unto the end: a Psalm of David for Maeleth; understanding.

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and are become abominable in iniquity; there is none that doeth good.

God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, or did seek God.

Every one of them is gone out of the way, they are altogether become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Shall not any of the workers of iniquity come to understanding, who eat up my people as they eat bread? They have not called upon the Lord.

There were they in great fear, where no fear was. For God hath scattered the bones of them that please men; they have been put to shame, because God hath despised them.

Who shall give the salvation of Israel out of Sion? When God hath turned back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

PSALM 53

Unto the end: among the hymns of instruction by David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, Is not David hid with us?

Save me, O God, by Thy name, and judge me by Thy strength.

Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

For strangers are risen up against me, and the mighty have sought after my soul, and they have not set God before them.

For behold, God helpeth me, and the Lord is the protector of my soul.

He shall bring evils upon mine enemies; cut them off in Thy truth.

I will freely sacrifice unto Thee; I will praise Thy name, O Lord, for it is good.

For Thou hast delivered me out of all trouble, and mine eye hath looked down upon mine enemies.

PSALM 54

Unto the end: among the hymns of instruction by David.

Give ear to my prayer, O God, and despise not my supplication; attend unto me, and hear me.

I was grieved in my meditation, and was troubled, because of the voice of the enemy, and the oppression of the sinner.

For they brought iniquity upon me, and in wrath were they angry with me.

My heart is troubled within me, and the terror of death is fallen upon me.

Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and darkness hath covered me.

And I said, Who will give me wings like a dove? And I will fly, and be at rest.

Lo, I fled far off, and lodged in the wilderness.

I waited for God that saveth me from faintheartedness, and from tempest.

Drown, Lord, and divide their tongues, for I have seen iniquity and strife in the city.

Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof; iniquity and toil and unrighteousness are in the midst of it.

And usury and deceit are not departed from its streets.

For if an enemy had reproached me, then I might have borne it; and if he that hated me had magnified his words against me, then I would have hid myself from him.

But it was thou, a man of like mind, my guide and my familiar friend.

Who didst sweeten my meals together with me; we walked in the house of God in one mind.

Let death come upon them, and let them go down quick into hell; for wickedness is in their dwellings, and in the midst of them.

As for me, I cried unto God, and the Lord heard me.

Evening, and morning, and at noonday will I declare and tell of it; and He shall hear my voice.

He shall redeem my soul in peace from them that draw nigh unto me; for they among many were with me.

God shall hear, and He shall humble them, even He that abideth of old.

Because they have no changes, and they have not feared God.

He hath put forth His hand to repay; they have defiled His covenant.

They were scattered by the wrath of His countenance, and their hearts have drawn near. Their words are smoother than oil, and yet are they darts.

Cast thy care upon the Lord, and He shall nourish thee; He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

But Thou, O God, shalt bring those men down into the pit of destruction. Bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will hope in Thee, O Lord.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE EIGHTH KATHISMA

PSALM 55

Unto the end: over the people that were removed from the sanctuary. By David, for a pillar inscription, when the Philistines held him in Geth.

Be merciful unto me, O God, for man hath trodden me down; fighting all the day long, he hath afflicted me.

Mine enemies have trodden me down all the day long, for they be many that fight against me from on high.

By day I will not fear, but I will hope in Thee.

In God I will praise my words, in God have I put my hope; I will not be afraid what flesh can do unto me.

All the day long they abhorred my words; all their thoughts were against me for evil.

They will dwell near, and hide themselves; they will mark where I set my heel, even as they have waited for my soul.

By no means shalt Thou save them; in anger shalt Thou cast down the people, O God.

I have declared my life unto Thee; Thou hast set my tears before Thee.

Even as Thou hast promised, mine enemies shall be turned back. In the day that I call upon Thee, behold, I know that Thou art God.

In God will I praise His word; in the Lord will I praise His speech.

In God have I put my hope; I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Thy vows are upon me, O God, which I will render in praise of Thee.

For Thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling; that I may be well pleasing before the Lord in the light of the living.

PSALM 56

Unto the end: destroy not. A pillar inscription by David, when he fled from the presence of Saul to the cave.

Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me; for my soul hath hoped in Thee. Yea, in the shadow of Thy wings will I hope, until iniquity be overpast.

I will cry unto God Most High, unto God my benefactor.

He hath sent from heaven, and saved me; He hath made them a reproach that trod me down.

God hath sent forth His mercy and His truth, and hath delivered my soul from the midst of the young lions; I slept, troubled.

As for the sons of men, their teeth are weapons and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

Be Thou exalted, O God, above the heavens, and Thy glory above all the earth.

They have prepared a snare for my feet, and bowed down my soul. They have digged a pit before me, and they are fallen into it themselves.

My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready; I will sing, and give praise.

Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp; I myself will awake right early.

I will praise Thee, O Lord, among the people; I will sing unto Thee among the nations.

For Thy mercy is magnified unto the heavens, and Thy truth unto the clouds.

Be Thou exalted, O Lord, above the heavens, and Thy glory above all the earth.

PSALM 57

Unto the end: destroy not. A pillar inscription of David.

If ye do indeed speak righteousness, judge rightly, O ye sons of men.

Yea, in heart ye work iniquity in the earth; your hands deal unrighteousness.

Sinners are estranged from the womb; they have gone astray from the belly, they have spoken lies.

Their rage is like that of a serpent, like the asp that is deaf, and stoppeth her ears.

Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, nor of the charm of the wizard that charmeth wisely.

God shall break in pieces their teeth in their mouth; the Lord hath broken the great teeth of the lions.

They shall melt away as waters running down; He shall bend his bow until they be weakened.

Like wax that is melted, they shall be taken away; fire hath fallen upon them, and they have not seen the sun.

Before your thorns can feel the briar, He shall swallow them up living in His wrath.

The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance; he shall wash his hands in the blood of the sinner.

And man shall say, Verily there be fruit for the righteous; verily there is a God that judgeth them upon the earth.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 58

Unto the end: destroy not. Of David, for a pillar inscription, when Saul sent and watched his house, to kill him.

Deliver me from mine enemies, O God, and redeem me from them that rise up against me.

Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, and save me from the bloodthirsty men.

For lo, they have hunted after my soul, the mighty have set upon me; not for mine iniquity, nor for my sin, O Lord.

Without iniquity I ran, and directed my steps; arise Thou to meet me, and behold.

Thou, therefore, O Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel, draw near to visit all the heathen; be not merciful to any that work iniquity.

They shall return at evening, and hunger like dogs, and go round about the city.

Behold, they shall utter a sound with their mouth, and a sword is in their lips: For who, say they, hath heard?

But Thou, O Lord, shalt laugh at them; Thou shalt bring all the heathen to nought.

O my strength, I will keep watch for Thee, for Thou, O God, art my help.

As for my God, His mercy shall prevent me; God shall reveal it unto me among mine enemies.

Slay them not, lest they forget Thy law: scatter them by Thy power, and bring them down, O Lord my defender.

For the sin of their mouth, and the words of their lips, let them even be taken in their pride.

And for their cursing and lying shall their utter destruction be made known, in the wrath of utter destruction.

And they shall be no more, and they shall know that God is Lord of Jacob, and of the ends of the earth.

They shall return at evening, and hunger like dogs, and go round about the city.

They shall be scattered abroad to eat; they shall murmur if they be not satisfied.

But I will sing of Thy strength; yea, I will rejoice in Thy mercy in the morning. For Thou art become my help and my refuge in the day of my trouble.

Thou art my help, unto Thee will I sing, for Thou, O God, art my help; my God, Thou art my mercy.

PSALM 59

Unto the end: concerning the verses to be alternated. A pillar inscription for David, for instruction, when he had burned Mesopotamia of Syria and Syrian Sobal, and Joab had returned and struck Edom, twelve thousand in the valley of salt.

O God, Thou hast cast us off, and hast destroyed us; Thou hast been angry, and hast had mercy upon us.

Thou hast made the land to tremble, and hast troubled it; heal Thou the breaches thereof, for it hath been shaken.

Thou hast shown Thy people hard things; Thou hast made us to drink the wine of sorrow.

Thou hast given a sign unto them that fear Thee, that they may flee from before the bow.

That Thy beloved may be delivered, save with Thy right hand, and hear Thou me.

God hath spoken in His holiness, I will exult, and divide Sichem, and measure out the valley of tents.

Galaad is Mine, and Manasses is Mine; Ephraim also is the strength of My head; Judea is My king.

Moab is the pot of My hope, over Idumea will I stretch forth My shoe; the strangers are made subject unto Me.

Who will lead Me into a fortified city? Or who will bring Me into Idumea?

Will not Thou, O God, who hast cast us off? And wilt not Thou, O God, go out with our hosts?

Give us help from trouble, for vain is the salvation of man.

Through God we shall do mightily, and He shall bring those that trouble us to nought.

PSALM 60

Unto the end: among the hymns of David.

Hear my supplication, O God; attend unto my prayer.

From the ends of the earth have I cried unto Thee, when my heart was overwhelmed; Thou hast lifted me high upon a rock.

Thou hast guided me, for Thou hast been my hope, a strong tower against the face of the enemy.

I will abide in Thy tabernacle for ever; I shall be sheltered under the covert of Thy wings.

For Thou, O God, hast heard my prayers; Thou hast given a heritage to those that fear Thy name.

Thou wilt prolong the king's days, his years to generation upon generation.

He shall abide before the face of God for ever; His mercy and truth, who shall search it out?

So will I sing praise unto Thy name for ever and ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 61

Unto the end: a Psalm of David for Idithum.

Shall not my soul be subject to God? For from Him cometh my salvation.

For He is my God, my Saviour and my helper; and I shall be moved no more.

How long do ye assail a man? Ye slay, all of you, as a leaning wall, and as a tottering fence.

But they consulted to impugn mine honour; they ran in lies; they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly.

But be thou subject unto God, my soul, for my endurance is from Him.

For He only is my God, my Saviour and my helper; and I shall not be moved.

In God is my salvation and my glory; He is the God of my help, and my hope is in God.

Hope in Him, all ye congregation of the people; pour out your heart before Him, for God is our helper.

For the sons of men are vain, the sons of men are liars in the balance; out of vanity they gather themselves together, that they may work injustice.

Hope not in injustice, and covet not plunder; if riches flow, set not your heart upon them.

God hath spoken once, and these two things have I heard: that power belongeth unto God; also unto Thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy, for Thou shalt render to every man according to his works.

PSALM 62

A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judea.

O God my God, early do I seek Thee. My soul hath thirsted for Thee, how many ways my flesh hath longed for Thee, in a barren and untrodden land, where no water is.

So have I appeared before Thee in the sanctuary, to see Thy power and glory.

Because Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee.

So will I bless Thee while I live, and I will lift up my hands in Thy name.

Let my soul be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise Thee with joyful lips.

If I have remembered Thee upon my bed, I meditated on Thee in the morning watches.

Because Thou hast been my help; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice.

My soul hath cleaved to Thee, Thy right hand hath upholden me.

But they have sought my soul in vain; they shall go into the lower parts of the earth, they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be portions for foxes.

But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by Him shall be praised, for the mouth of them that speak unjustly hath been stopped.

PSALM 63

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

Hear my prayer, O God, when I pray unto Thee; deliver my soul from fear of the enemy.

Shelter me from the council of them that work iniquity, from the multitude of the workers of unrighteousness.

They have sharpened their tongue like a sword, they have bent their bow, a bitter matter, that they may shoot in secret at the blameless one.

Suddenly will they shoot at him, and will not fear; they have encouraged themselves with a wicked word.

They have communed of laying snares privily; they said, Who shall see them?

They have searched out iniquities; they have wearied themselves with a diligent search.

Man shall approach, and the heart is deep; and God shall be exalted.

As an arrow of babes are their blows, and their tongues were weakened against them.

All that saw them were troubled, and all men feared.

And they declared the works of God, and understood His doings.

The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and shall hope in Him, and all the upright in heart shall be praised.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE NINTH KATHISMA

PSALM 64

Unto the end: a Psalm of a song of David. The song sung by Jeremias and Ezekiel and the captive people, when they were about to depart.

Unto Thee, O God, belongeth praise in Sion, and unto Thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

Hear my prayer; unto Thee shall all flesh come.

The words of transgressors have overpowered us, but Thou shalt be merciful to our ungodliness.

Blessed is he whom Thou hast chosen, and taken unto Thee; he shall dwell in Thy courts.

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Thy house; Thy temple is holy, wonderful in righteousness.

Hear us, O God our Saviour, Thou hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea.

Who by Thy strength settest fast the mountains, being girded about with power, who troublest the depths of the sea; who shall withstand the noise of its waves?

The nations shall be troubled; they also that dwell in the uttermost parts shall be afraid at Thy signs; Thou shalt make the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

Thou hast visited the earth and watered it plenteously; Thou hast greatly enriched it.

The river of God is full of waters; Thou hast prepared their food, for so is its preparation.

Make Thou her furrows drunk with water, multiply her fruits; when she springeth up, she shall rejoice in her showers.

Thou shalt bless the crown of the year with Thy goodness, and Thy plains shall be filled with fatness.

The mountains of the wilderness shall be enriched, and the hills shall be girded about with joy.

The rams of the flock have clothed themselves with fleece, and the valleys shall abound with corn; they shall cry aloud, yea, they shall sing hymns.

PSALM 65

Unto the end: a Psalm of a song of the resurrection.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth.

Sing praises unto His name, give glory in His praise.

Say unto God, How terrible are Thy works! Through the greatness of Thy power shall Thine enemies be found false unto Thee.

Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing unto Thee; let them sing to Thy name, O Thou Most High.

Come and see the works of God, terrible in His counsels over the children of men.

He turneth the sea into dry land; they shall go through the flood on foot; there shall we rejoice in Him,

Who ruleth by His power for ever. His eyes behold the nations; let not them that embitter Him be exalted in themselves.

O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of His praise to be heard,

Which holdeth my soul in life, and suffereth not my feet to be moved.

For Thou, O God, hast proved us, and hast tried us by fire, as silver is tried.

Thou broughtest us into the snare, Thou laidst afflictions upon our back.

Thou didst set men over our heads; we went through fire and through water, but Thou broughtest us out into refreshment.

I will go into Thy house with a whole burnt offering; I will pay Thee my vows, which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.

I will offer unto Thee burnt sacrifices, full of marrow, with the incense of rams; I will offer Thee bullocks with goats.

Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what He hath done for my soul.

I cried unto Him with my mouth, and extolled Him with my tongue.

If I have regarded iniquity in my heart, let not the Lord hear me.

But verily God hath heard me; He hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me.

PSALM 66

Unto the end: in hymns, a Psalm of a song for David.

God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us; and have mercy on us.

That we may know Thy way upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations.

Let the people praise Thee, O God, let all the people praise Thee.

O let the nations be glad and rejoice, for Thou shalt judge the people with uprightness, and guide the heathen upon earth.

Let the people praise Thee, O God, let all the people praise Thee;

The earth hath yielded its fruit. Let God, even our own God, bless us;

Let God bless us, and let all the ends of the earth fear Him.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 67

Unto the end: a Psalm of a song of David.

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered; let them also that hate Him flee before his face.

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish away; as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God; let them rejoice with gladness.

Sing unto God, sing praises to His name; prepare the way for Him that rideth upon the sunset. The Lord is His name; exult ye before Him.

Let them be troubled at the presence of Him that is a father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows; even God in his holy habitation.

God settleth the solitary in a house; He bringeth out with strength them that were imprisoned; yea, likewise them that embitter Him, that dwell in sepulchres.

O God, when Thou wentest forth before Thy people, when Thou didst pass through the wilderness,

The earth trembled, the heavens also dropped at the presence of the God of Sinai, at the presence of the God of Israel.

Thou, O God, shalt ordain for Thine inheritance a free rain; yea, it was weary, but Thou shalt restore it.

Thy creatures shall dwell therein; Thou, O God, hast prepared of Thy goodness for the poor.

The Lord shall give the word to them that preach good tidings with great power.

The king of the hosts of his beloved shall divide the spoils for the beauty of the house.

Though ye sleep among the lots, yet shall ye have the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold.

When He that is in heaven appointeth kings over her, they shall be white as snow in Selmon.

The mountain of God is a rich mountain, a curdled mountain, a rich mountain.

Wherefore do ye suppose, ye curdled mountains? This is the mountain wherein God hath desired to dwell; yea, the Lord will dwell in it for ever.

The chariots of God are ten thousands, yea, thousands of them abounding; the Lord is among them in Sinai, in His holy place.

Thou hast ascended on high, Thou hast led captivity captive; Thou hast received gifts among men, yea, for they were rebellious, that Thou mightest dwell therein.

Blessed be the Lord, blessed be the Lord day by day; the God of our salvation shall prosper us along the way.

Our God is the God of salvation, and of the Lord, the Lord are the issues from death.

But God shall crush the heads of His enemies, the hairy crown of them that go on in their trespasses.

The Lord said, I will come again from Basan, I will come again in the depths of the sea,

That thy foot may be dipped in blood, the tongue of thy dogs in that of thine enemies.

Thy goings have been seen, O God, the goings of my God, of my king in His sanctuary.

The princes went before, and after them the singers, among the damsels playing with timbrels.

Bless ye God in the congregations, even the Lord from the fountains of Israel.

There is Benjamin the younger, in ecstasy, the princes of Juda their rulers, the princes of Zabulon, the princes of Nephthalim.

Command Thy strength, O God; strengthen, O God, that which Thou hast wrought in us.

Because of Thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto Thee.

Rebuke the wild beasts of the reeds, the congregation of bulls among the heifers of the people, lest they exclude them that have been tried like silver. Scatter Thou the nations that delight in war.

Ambassadors shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.

Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord, to Him that rideth upon the heaven of heavens to the dayspring. Lo, He will give to His voice a voice of power.

Ascribe glory unto God; His magnificence is over Israel, and His strength is in the clouds.

God is wonderful in His saints; the God of Israel is He that will give power and strength unto His people. Blessed be God.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 68

Unto the end: about the verses that are to be alternated.
A Psalm of David.

Save me, O God, for the waters are come in unto my soul. I am stuck fast in the deep mire, and there is no standing. I am come into the depths of the sea, and a tempest hath overwhelmed me.

I am weary with my crying, my throat is become hoarse; mine eyes have failed from hoping in my God.

They that hate me without a cause are multiplied more than the hairs of my head; mine enemies are grown strong that persecute me wrongfully; then I restored that which I took not away.

O God, Thou knowest my foolishness, and my sins are not hid from Thee.

Let not those that wait on Thee, O Lord, Thou Lord of hosts, be ashamed for my sake; nor let them that seek Thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.

Because for Thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face.

I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.

For the zeal of Thine house hath eaten me up, and the reproaches of them that reproach Thee are fallen upon me.

And I covered my soul with fasting, and that was made a reproach unto me.

I made sackcloth also my garment, and I became a proverb unto them.

They that sit in the gate spake against me, and the drunkards made me their song.

But as for me, with my prayer will I cry unto Thee, O Lord, for the time of Thy good pleasure. O God, in the multitude of Thy mercy hear me, in the truth of Thy salvation.

Deliver me out of the mire, that I may not stick fast; let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters.

Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

Hear me, O Lord, for Thy mercy is good; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies look upon me.

Turn not away Thy face from Thy servant, for I am in trouble; hear me speedily.

Draw nigh unto my soul, and redeem it; deliver me because of mine enemies.

For Thou knowest my reproach, and my shame, and my humiliation. All they that afflict me are before Thee.

My soul hath looked for reproach and misery; and I looked for one that would grieve with me, but there was none; and for one that would comfort me, but found I none.

They gave me also gall for my meat, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Let their table become a snare before them, for a recompense, and for a stumbling block.

Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not, and bow down their back continually.

Pour out Thine indignation upon them, and let Thy wrathful anger take hold upon them.

Let their habitation be desolate, and let none dwell in their tents.

For they persecuted him whom Thou hast smitten, and have added to the pain of my wounds.

Add iniquity unto their iniquity, and let them not come into Thy righteousness.

Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

I am poor and sorrowful; let Thy salvation, O God, be quick to help me.

I will praise the name of my God with a song; I will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

This also shall please God better than a young calf that hath horns and hoofs.

Let the needy see this, and be glad; seek ye God, and your soul shall live.

For the Lord hath heard the poor, and hath not despised His prisoners.

Let the heaven and earth praise Him; the sea and every thing that creepeth therein.

For God will save Sion, and the cities of Judea shall be built up; and they shall dwell there, and inherit it.

The seed also of Thy servants shall have it in possession, and they that love Thy name shall dwell therein.

PSALM 69

Unto the end: of David, in remembrance that the Lord saved him.

O God, draw near to help me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul; let them be turned backward and brought to shame that desire my hurt.

Let them be turned back at once ashamed that say to me, Well, well!

Let all those that seek Thee, O God, be glad and rejoice in Thee; and let such as love Thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified.

But I am poor and needy; help me, O God. Thou art my help and deliverer; Lord, make no long tarrying.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE TENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 70

Of David. A Psalm of the sons of Jonadab and the first who were taken captive.

In Thee, O Lord, have I put my hope, let me never be ashamed. Deliver me in Thy righteousness, and rescue me; incline Thine ear unto me, and save me.

Be Thou unto me a defending God, and a strong habitation to save me, for Thou art my rock and my refuge.

Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the sinner, out of the hand of the transgressor and unrighteous man.

For Thou art mine endurance, O Lord; O Lord, Thou art my hope from my youth.

On Thee have I been holden up from the womb; from my mother's belly Thou art my protector. My song of praise is continually of Thee.

I am as a wonder unto many, but Thou art my strong helper.

Let my mouth be filled with Thy praise, that I may hymn Thy glory, Thy majesty all the day.

Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.

For mine enemies spake against me, and they that lay wait for my soul took counsel together,

Saying, God hath forsaken him; persecute and take him, for there is none to deliver him.

My God, be not far from me; O my God, make haste for my help.

Let them be ashamed and brought to nought that slander my soul; let them be covered with shame and confusion that seek my hurt.

But I will hope in Thee continually, and will yet praise Thee more and more.

My mouth shall show forth Thy righteousness, Thy salvation all the day; for I know not the reckoning thereof.

I will go in the strength of the Lord; O Lord, I will make mention of Thy righteousness, which is Thine only.

My God, Thou hast taught me from my youth, and until now will I declare Thy wondrous works.

Until I am old and greyheaded, my God, forsake me not; until I have showed Thy mighty arm to every generation that is to come;

Thy power and Thy righteousness, O God, and show even to the highest the great things which Thou hast done for me. O God, who is like unto Thee?

How great are the troubles which Thou hast shown me, many and evil; yet Thou hast turned and quickened me, and hast brought me up again from the depths of the earth.

Thou hast multiplied Thy magnificence over me, and returning, Thou hast comforted me, and hast brought me up again from the depths of the earth.

Therefore I will praise Thee among the people, O Lord, with instruments of psalmody; unto Thee with the harp will I sing of Thy truth, O God, the Holy One of Israel.

My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto Thee, and my soul, which Thou hast redeemed.

My tongue also shall meditate on Thy righteousness all the day long, when they are brought unto shame, and confounded, that seek my hurt.

PSALM 71

Unto the end: a Psalm of David for Solomon.

Give the king Thy judgment, O Lord, and Thy righteousness unto the king's son.

That he may judge Thy people with righteousness, and Thy poor with judgment.

Let the mountains receive peace for the people, and the hills righteousness.

He shall judge the poor of the people, and shall save the children of the needy, and shall humble the false accuser.

And He shall continue as long as the sun, and before the moon, from generation to generation.

He shall come down like rain upon a fleece, and as raindrops that fall upon the earth.

In His days shall righteousness spring up, and abundance of peace, until the moon be taken away.

He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the rivers unto the ends of the earth.

The Ethiopians shall fall down before Him, and his enemies shall lick the dust.

The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall bring presents; the kings of the Arabians and Saba shall offer gifts.

Yea, all the kings of the earth shall worship Him; all nations shall serve Him.

For He hath delivered the poor from the oppressor, the needy also, which had no helper.

He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.

He shall redeem their souls from usury and injustice, and precious shall His name be in their sight.

And He shall live, and to Him shall be given of the gold of Arabia; and they shall pray for Him continually, all the day shall they bless Him.

He shall be a firmament in the earth upon the tops of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall be exalted above Libanus, and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

His name shall be blessed for ever; His name continueth before the sun. And in Him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all nations shall call Him blessed.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be the name of His glory for ever, yea, for ever and ever.

And all the earth shall be filled with His glory. So be it. So be it.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

The praises of David the son of Jesse are ended.

PSALM 72

A Psalm of Asaph: a song for the Assyrian.

How good is God to Israel, even to such as are of an upright heart.

But as for me, my feet were almost gone, my steps had well nigh slipped.

For I was envious at the transgressors, when I saw the peace of the wicked.

For they show no refusal in their death, and they are steadfast in their stripes.

They are not in labours as other men, neither shall they be scourged with other men.

Therefore their pride hath mastered them; they have clothed themselves with their injustice and ungodliness.

Their injustice shall go forth as out of fatness; they have come into their heart's desire.

They have thought and spoken wickedly; they have spoken unrighteousness loftily.

They have set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue goeth through the earth.

Therefore shall my people return hither, and full days shall be found in them.

And they said, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the Most High?

Behold, these are the sinners; they prosper in this age, and have obtained riches.

And I said, Verily in vain have I justified my heart, and washed my hands in innocence.

For all the day long was I a man scourged, and reproof was mine every morning.

If I had said, I will speak thus, behold, I had broken covenant with the generation of Thy children.

And I sought to know this, but it was a labour before me.

Until I come into the sanctuary of God, and understand their end.

Verily, Thou hast appointed evils for them for their crafty dealings; Thou hast cast them down when they were lifted up.

How are they brought to desolation in a moment! They are consumed; they have perished because of their iniquity.

As a dream when one awaketh, O Lord, in Thy city shalt Thou despise their image.

For my heart was on fire, and my reins were changed.

And I was brought to nothing, and I knew it not. I became as a beast before Thee, yet I am ever with Thee.

Thou hast holden me by my right hand, and hast guided me by Thy counsel, and hast received me with glory.

For what have I in heaven, and what have I desired upon the earth beside Thee?

My heart and my flesh have failed, O Thou God of my heart; but God is my portion for ever.

For lo, they that depart from Thee shall perish; Thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from Thee.

But it is good for me to draw near to God, to put my hope in the Lord, that I may declare all Thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion.

PSALM 73

A Psalm of understanding for Asaph.

O God, why hast Thou cast us off for ever? Why hath Thine anger raged against the sheep of Thy pasture?

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old.

Thou hast redeemed the rod of Thine inheritance, this Mount Sion wherein Thou hast dwelt.

Lift up Thy hands against their perpetual pride, even all that the enemy hath done wickedly in Thy sanctuary.

And they that hate Thee have made their boast in the midst of Thy feast.

They set up their ensigns for signs, though they knew it not, in the going out on high.

As in a forest of trees, they have cut down at once the doors thereof with axes; they have broken it down with axe and hammer.

With fire have they burned down Thy sanctuary; they have defiled the dwelling place of Thy name to the ground.

They said in their heart, the whole kindred of them together, Come, let us abolish all the feasts of God from the earth.

We have not seen our signs, there is no more any prophet, and he will know us no more.

O God, how long shall the enemy reproach? Shall the enemy provoke Thy name for ever?

Why withdrawest Thou Thy hand, even Thy right hand, out of the midst of Thy bosom for ever?

But God is our king of old; He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Thou didst establish the sea by Thy strength; Thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the water.

Thou didst crush the head of the dragon; Thou gavest him to be meat to the people of the Ethiopians.

Thou didst cleave the fountains and the floods, Thou driedst up the rivers of Etham.

The day is Thine, the night also is Thine; Thou hast prepared the light and the sun.

Thou hast set all the borders of the earth; Thou hast made the summer and spring.

Remember this Thy creation. The enemy hath reproached the Lord, and a foolish people hath provoked Thy name.

O deliver not over unto the wild beasts the soul that doth confess Thee; forget not the souls of Thy poor for ever.

Have respect unto Thy covenant, for the dark places of the earth are filled with the habitations of iniquity.

Let not the humble and ashamed be turned away; the poor and the needy shall praise Thy name.

Arise, O God, judge Thine own cause; remember the reproach that is made against Thee daily by the foolish man.

Forget not the voice of Thy suppliants; the pride of those that hate Thee riseth up continually.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 74

Unto the end: destroy not; a Psalm of a song for Asaph.

Unto Thee, O God, will we give thanks; we will give thanks and call upon Thy name. I will tell of all Thy wondrous works.

When I am given the appointed time, I will judge uprightly.

The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved; I have made fast the pillars thereof.

I said unto the transgressors, Transgress not; and to the sinners, Lift not up the horn.

Lift not up thy horn on high, and speak not unrighteousness against God.

For judgment cometh neither from the byways, nor from the west, nor from the desert mountains: for God is judge.

He putteth down one, and setteth up another; for there in the hand of the Lord there is a full cup of unmingled wine.

And He hath turned it from this to that, but the dregs thereof are not wholly emptied out; all the sinners of the earth shall drink from them.

But I will rejoice for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

All the horns also of the wicked will I break, but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

PSALM 75

Unto the end: in praises; a Psalm for Asaph; a song to the Assyrian.

In Judea is God known; His name is great in Israel.

And His place hath been in peace, and His dwelling place in Sion.

There brake He the power of the bow, the weapon, and the sword, and the battle.

Thou shinest wondrously from the everlasting mountains.

All the foolish of heart were troubled, they have slept their sleep, and all the men of riches have found nothing in their hands.

At Thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, all those that mounted on horses slept.

Thou art to be feared, and who shall withstand Thee? From that time is Thy wrath.

Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven.

The earth feared, and was still, when God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth.

For the inward thought of man shall praise Thee, and the remnant of his inward thought shall keep a feast unto Thee.

Vow, and pay unto the Lord Thy God; all them that be round about Him shall bring presents,

Unto Him that is to be feared, and that taketh away the spirit of princes; unto Him that is to be feared among the kings of the earth.

PSALM 76

Unto the end: a Psalm of Asaph concerning Idithum.

I cried unto the Lord with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and He gave ear unto me.

In the day of my trouble I sought God, with my hands lifted up by night before him; and I was not deceived. My soul refused to be comforted.

I remembered God, and I was gladdened; I spake in idleness, and my spirit fainted.

Mine eyes prevented the morning watches; I was troubled, and spake not.

I have considered the days of old, and called to remembrance the years of ages past, and meditated.

I pondered in my heart in the night, and my spirit made diligent search.

Will the Lord cast off for ever? And will He be favourable no more?

Or will He cut off His mercy for ever, his word from generation to generation?

Or will God forget to show mercy? Or will He in his anger shut up His tender mercy for ever?

And I said, Now I have begun; this change is of the right hand of the Most High.

I remembered the works of the Lord, for I will remember Thy wonders of old.

I will meditate also on all Thy works, and consider Thy ways.

Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary; who is so great a God as our God? Thou art the God that doest wonders.

Thou hast made known Thy strength among the people; Thou hast with Thine arm redeemed Thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph.

The waters saw Thee, O God, the waters saw Thee, and were afraid; the depths were troubled.

Great was the noise of the waters; the clouds gave voice, for Thine arrows went abroad.

The voice of Thy thunder was in their rolling, and Thy lightnings lightened the world; the earth trembled and shook.

Thy ways are in the sea, and Thy paths in the great waters; and Thy footsteps shall not be known.

Thou leddest Thy people like sheep, by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE ELEVENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 77

A Psalm of instruction for Asaph.

Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter dark sayings of old;

Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

They were not hid from their children in another generation; they showed the praises of the Lord, and His mighty acts, and His wonderful works that He hath done.

And He raised up a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel.

Which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;

That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; that they should arise, and declare them to their children.

That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but seek His commandments.

That they might not be as their fathers, a perverse and provoking generation.

A generation that set not their heart aright, and kept not their spirit steadfast with God.

The children of Ephraim, bending and shooting the bow, turned back in the day of battle.

They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in His law.

They forgot His benefits, and His wonders that He had shown them.

Marvellous things that He did in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Tanis.

He divided the sea, and brought them through; He made the waters stand as in a wineskin.

In the daytime also He led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

He clave the rock in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of a great deep.

He brought water also out of the rock, and brought down waters as rivers.

And they sinned yet more against Him; they provoked the Most High in the place without waters.

And they tempted God in their hearts, by asking meat for their souls.

Yea, they spake against God, and said, Cannot God furnish a table in the wilderness?

Because He smote a rock, and the waters streamed forth, and the torrents overflowed: cannot He give bread also, or furnish a table for His people?

Therefore the Lord heard this, and was provoked; and a fire was kindled in Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel.

Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in His salvation.

And He commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven.

And He rained down manna upon them to eat, and gave them bread of heaven.

Man ate the bread of angels; He sent them provision to the full.

He removed the south wind from heaven, and by His power brought in the south-west wind.

He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sands of the sea,

Which fell in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.

And they did eat, and were well filled, and He gave them their own desire; and they were not estranged from their lust.

But while the meat was yet in their mouths, the wrath of God rose up against them, and slew the fattest of them, and fettered the chosen men of Israel.

In all this they sinned still, and believed not for His wondrous works.

And their days were consumed in vanity, and their years in haste.

When he slew them, then they sought Him, and they returned and called early unto God.

And they remembered that God was their help, and the Most High God their redeemer.

Nevertheless they did love Him only with their mouth, and they lied to Him with their tongue.

For their heart was not right with Him, neither were they steadfast in His covenant.

But He is full of compassion, and will forgive their iniquity, and will destroy them not.

And many a time will He turn away His anger, and will not kindle all His wrath.

And He remembered that they were but flesh, a breath that passeth away, and cometh not again.

How oft did they provoke Him in the wilderness, and anger Him in the dry land!

They turned back and tempted God, and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

They remembered not His hand, nor the day when He delivered them from the hand of the oppressor.

How He had wrought His signs in Egypt, and His wonders in the field of Tanis.

And He turned their rivers into blood; their showers also, that they could not drink.

He sent the dog-fly against them, which devoured them; and the frog, which destroyed them.

He gave also their increase unto the canker, and their labours unto the locust.

And He destroyed their vines with hail, and their mulberry trees with frost.

He gave their cattle also to the hail, and their substance to the fire.

And He sent against them the fierceness of His anger; wrath, and indignation, and trouble, a message of evil angels.

He made a way to His anger, and spared not their souls from death; but shut up their cattle in death.

And smote all the firstborn in Egypt, the first fruits of all their labour in the tabernacles of Cham.

And He took away His people like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

And He guided them in hope, and they feared not, and the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

And He brought them into the mountain of His sanctuary, even to this mountain which His right hand had possessed.

He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line.

And made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

Yet they tempted and provoked the most High God, and kept not His testimonies.

But turned back, and brake covenant, like their fathers; they became like a crooked bow.

And they provoked Him to anger among their hills, and moved Him to jealousy with their graven images.

God heard, and regarded them no more, and despised Israel.

And He forsook His tabernacle at Silom, His dwelling where He had dwelt among men.

And delivered their strength into captivity, and their beauty into the enemy's hands.

And He shut up his people with a sword, and regarded His inheritance no more.

The fire consumed their young men, and their maidens made no lamentation.

Their priests fell by the sword, and none shall weep for their widows.

Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that hath been heated with wine.

And He smote His enemies on their hinder parts; He put them to a perpetual reproach.

Moreover, He refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim;

But chose the tribe of Juda, the Mount Sion which He loved.

And He built His sanctuary like that of an unicorn; He established it upon the earth for ever.

He chose David also His servant, and took him from the flocks of sheep.

From following the ewes great with young He took him, to shepherd Jacob His servant, and Israel His inheritance.

So he shepherded them in the innocence of his heart, and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 78

A Psalm of Asaph.

O God, the heathen are come into Thine inheritance, Thy holy temple have they defiled; they have made Jerusalem as an orchard watcher's hut.

The dead bodies of Thy servants have they given to be meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of Thy saints unto the beasts of the earth.

Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem, and there was none to bury them.

We are become a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

How long, O Lord? wilt Thou be angry for ever? Shall Thy jealousy be kindled like fire?

Pour out Thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known Thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon Thy name.

For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place.

O remember not our former iniquities; let Thy tender mercies speedily prevent us, Lord, for we are become exceeding poor.

Help us, O God our Saviour, for the glory of Thy name; deliver us, O Lord, and be gracious unto our sins for Thy name's sake.

Lest the heathen say, Where is their God? Yea, make known among the heathen in our sight the vengeance for the blood of Thy servants which hath been shed.

Let the groaning of the prisoners come before Thee; according to the greatness of Thine arm show Thy care for the sons of the slain.

And render unto our neighbours sevenfold into their bosom their reproach wherewith they have reproached Thee, O Lord.

For we are Thy people, and the sheep of Thy pasture. We will give Thee thanks, O God, for ever; we will show forth Thy praise from generation to generation.

PSALM 79

Unto the end: about the verses that are to be alternated. A testimony for Asaph, a Psalm about the Assyrian.

Give ear, O shepherd of Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

Thou that sittest upon the cherubim, show Thyself before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasses.

Stir up Thy strength, and come to save us.

Turn us again, O God, and cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long wilt Thou be angry against the prayer of Thy servants?

Wilt Thou feed us with the bread of tears, and give us tears to drink in great measure?

Thou hast made us a strife among our neighbours, and our enemies have scoffed at us.

Turn us again, O Lord of hosts, and cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt; Thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

Thou preparedst the way before it, and Thou plantedst the roots thereof, and it filled the earth.

The shadows thereof covered the mountains, and the boughs thereof the cedars of God.

It stretched forth its shoots unto the sea, and its branches unto the rivers.

Why hast Thou broken down its hedge, and all they that pass by the way do pluck the fruit?

The boar out of the wood hath wasted it, and the wild beast hath devoured it.

Turn again, O God of hosts; and look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine.

And perfect that which Thy right hand hath planted, and look upon the son of man, whom Thou hast made strong for Thyself.

It is burned with fire, and dug up; they shall perish at the rebuke of Thy face.

Let Thy hand be upon the man of Thy right hand, and upon the son of man whom Thou hast made strong for Thyself.

And we will not depart from Thee; Thou shalt quicken us, and we will call upon Thy name.

Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; and cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

PSALM 80

Unto the end: a Psalm for Asaph about the winepresses.

Rejoice in God our helper; shout with joy unto the God of Jacob.

Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant psaltery with the harp.

Sound the trumpet in the new moon, even in the notable day of our feast.

For this is a statute for Israel, and a judgment of the God of Jacob.

This He ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out of the land of Egypt; he heard a language that he knew not.

He removed his back from burdens; his hands had slaved at the basket.

Thou calledst upon Me in trouble, and I delivered thee; I heard thee in the secret place of the tempest, I proved thee at the waters of strife.

Hear, O My people, and I will speak unto thee, O Israel, and I will testify unto Thee.

If thou wilt hearken unto Me, there shall no new God be in thee, neither shalt thou worship a strange god.

For I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt; open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.

But my people would not hear My voice, and Israel gave no heed to Me.

So I let them go according to their hearts' desires; they shall walk in their own ways.

If my people had hearkened unto Me, if Israel had walked in My ways,

I should soon have humbled their enemies, and laid Mine hand on them that troubled them.

The enemies of the Lord have lied unto Him, but in that age their time shall come.

And He fed them with the fat of wheat, and with honey out of the rock He satisfied them.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 81

A Psalm for Asaph.

God stood in the assembly of the gods, and in their midst He shall judge gods.

How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the person of the wicked?

Judge for the fatherless and the poor; do justice unto the humble and needy.

Rescue the poor and needy; deliver him out of the hand of the sinner.

They have not known, nor understood; they walk on in darkness. Let all the foundations of the earth be moved.

I have said, Ye are gods, and all of you are the children of the Most High.

But ye die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

Arise, O God, judge the earth, for Thou shalt inherit among all nations.

PSALM 82

A song of a Psalm for Asaph.

O God, who shall be likened unto Thee? Hold not Thy peace, and be not still, O God.

For lo, Thine enemies have made a tumult, and they that hate Thee have lifted up the head.

They have taken wicked counsel against Thy people, and consulted against Thy saints.

They have said, Come, let us cut them off, that they be no more a nation, and let the name of Israel be no more in remembrance.

For they have consulted together with one consent; they have made a covenant against Thee, the tents of the Idumeans and the Ismaelites,

Moab and the Hagarenes, Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, and the strangers, with them that dwell at Tyre.

Assur also is come with them; they have holpen the children of Lot.

Do unto them as Thou didst unto Madiam and Sisara, as to Jabin at the brook of Kisson.

They were destroyed at Endor, they became as dung for the earth.

Make their princes like Oreb and Zeb, and Zebee and Salmana, yea, all their princes who said, Let us take to ourselves the sanctuary of God for an inheritance.

O my God, make them like a wheel, as the stubble before the face of the wind,

As the fire that shall burn the wood, as the flame that shall consume the mountains.

So shalt Thou pursue them with Thy tempest, and trouble them in Thy wrath.

Fill their faces with dishonour, and they shall seek Thy name, O Lord.

Let them be ashamed and troubled for ever and ever, and let them be confounded and destroyed.

And let them know that the Lord is Thy name; Thou alone art the Most High over all the earth.

PSALM 83

Unto the end: concerning the winepresses: a Psalm for the sons of Kore.

How beloved are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts. My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh have rejoiced in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the turtledove a nest for herself, where she may lay her young; even Thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house; they shall praise Thee for ever and ever.

Blessed is the man whose help is from Thee; he hath ascended in his heart in the vale of weeping, even in the place which he hath set.

For the lawgiver shall give blessings, they shall go from strength to strength; the God of gods shall be seen in Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our defender, and look upon the face of Thine anointed.

For one day in Thy courts is better than thousands. I have chosen to be an outcast in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of sinners.

For the Lord loveth mercy and truth, God will give grace and glory; no good thing will the Lord withhold from them that walk in innocence.

O Lord God of hosts, blessed is the man that hopeth in Thee.

PSALM 84

Unto the end: for the sons of Kore; a Psalm.

Lord, Thou hast been favourable unto Thy land; Thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob.

Thou hast forgiven the iniquities of Thy people; Thou hast covered all their sins.

Thou hast made all Thy wrath to cease; Thou hast turned away from the anger of Thy wrath.

Turn us back, O God of our salvation, and turn away Thine anger from us.

Wilt Thou be angry with us for ever, or wilt Thou stretch out Thy wrath from generation to generation?

Thou shalt turn again, O God, and quicken us; and Thy people shall be glad in Thee.

Show us Thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us Thy salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God will speak in me; for He will speak peace to His people, and to His saints, and to them that turn their heart to Him.

Surely His salvation is nigh unto them that fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth is sprung out of the earth, and righteousness hath looked down from heaven.

For the Lord will give that which is good, and our land shall yield her increase.

Righteousness shall go before Him, and shall set His steps in the way.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE TWELFTH KATHISMA

PSALM 85

A prayer of David.

Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and hear me, for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my soul, for I am holy; O Thou my God, save Thy servant that hopeth in Thee.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord, for unto Thee will I cry all the day.

Rejoice the soul of Thy servant, for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul.

For Thou, Lord, art good and gentle, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplication.

In the day of my trouble have I cried unto Thee, for Thou hast heard me.

Among the gods there is none like unto Thee, O Lord, neither are there any works like unto Thy works.

All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord, and shall glorify Thy name.

For Thou art great, and doest wondrous things, Thou art God alone.

Lead me in Thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in Thy truth; let my heart rejoice that I may fear Thy name.

I will praise Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Thy name for evermore.

For great is Thy mercy toward me, and Thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

O God, transgressors are risen against me, and the assembly of the mighty hath sought after my soul, and have not set Thee before them.

But Thou, O Lord my God, art full of compassion, and merciful, long-suffering, and plenteous in mercy, and true.

Look Thou upon me, and have mercy upon me; give Thy strength unto Thy servant, and save the son of Thine handmaid.

Work in me a token for good, and let them which hate me see, and be ashamed; because Thou, Lord, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

PSALM 86

A Psalm of a song for the sons of Kore.

Her foundations are in the holy mountains.

The Lord loveth the gates of Sion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.

I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me.

And behold the foreigners, and those of Tyre, and the people of the Ethiopians; these were born there.

A man shall say, Sion my mother, and, That man was born in her, and, The Most Highest Himself hath established her.

The Lord shall tell it in His writings of the people and of the princes, even of them that have been born in her.

How joyful are all they that have their habitation in Thee!

PSALM 87

A song of a Psalm for the sons of Kore. Unto the end: about the response of Maeleth, for understanding for Aemon the Israelite.

O Lord God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before Thee.

Let my prayer come before Thee; incline Thine ear unto my supplication.

For my soul is full of evils, and my life hath drawn nigh unto hell.

I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead.

Like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from Thy hand.

They have laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, and in the shadow of death.

Thy wrath is made strong over me, and Thou hast brought all Thy waves upon me.

Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; they have made me an abomination unto them.

I am delivered up, and I cannot come forth; mine eyes are grown weak by reason of poverty.

Lord, I have called daily upon Thee, I have stretched out my hands unto Thee.

Wilt Thou work wonders for the dead? Or shall physicians raise them up to praise Thee?

Shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction?

Shall Thy wonders be known in that dark, and Thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

But unto Thee have I cried, O Lord, and in the morning shall my prayer prevent Thee.

Lord, why castest Thou off my soul, and turnest Thou away Thy face from me?

I am poor and in troubles from my youth up; yea, having been exalted, I was bowed down, and brought low unto distress.

Thy fierce wrath hath gone over me, and Thy terrors have troubled me.

They came round about me like water; all the day long they compassed me about together.

Friend and neighbour hast Thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance, because of misery.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 88

Understanding: for Etham the Israelite.

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, for ever; with my mouth will I show forth Thy truth to generation and generation.

For Thou hast said, Mercy shall be built up for ever; Thy truth shall be established in the heavens.

I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn unto David My servant.

Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to generation and generation.

The heavens shall praise Thy wonders, O Lord, Thy truth also in the congregation of the saints.

For who in the heaven can be compared unto the Lord? and who among the sons of God can be likened unto the Lord?

God who is glorified in the assembly of the saints, great and terrible toward all them that are round about Him.

O Lord God of hosts, who is like unto Thee? Thou art mighty, O Lord, and Thy truth is round about Thee.

Thou art ruler over the strength of the sea, and Thou stillest the tumult of her waves.

Thou hast humbled the proud, as one that is slain; and Thou hast scattered Thine enemies with Thy strong arm.

The heavens are Thine, the earth also is Thine; as for the world and the fulness thereof, Thou hast founded them.

The north and the sea Thou hast created them; Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in Thy name.

Thine is the mighty arm. Let Thine hand be strengthened, let Thy right hand be exalted.

Justice and judgment are the preparation of Thy throne; mercy and truth shall go before Thy face. Blessed is the people that knoweth the joyful sound.

They shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance, and in Thy name shall they rejoice all the day, and in Thy righteousness shall they be exalted.

For Thou art the glory of their strength, and in Thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

For of the Lord is our defence, and of the Holy One of Israel, our King.

Then Thou spakest in vision to Thy sons, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty, I have exalted one chosen out of My people.

I have found David My servant, with My holy oil have I anointed him.

For My hand shall support him, Mine arm also shall strengthen him. His enemy shall have no advantage over him, nor shall the son of wickedness have power to hurt him more.

And I will cut down his foes before his face, and put them that hate him to flight.

And My truth and My mercy shall be with him, and in My name shall his horn be exalted.

I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

He shall cry unto Me, and say, Thou art my Father, my God, and the helper of my salvation.

And I will make him My first born, higher than the kings of the earth.

My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and My covenant shall stand fast with him.

And I will establish his seed for ever and ever, and his throne shall be as the days of heaven.

If his children forsake My law, and walk not in My judgments;

If they profane My statutes, and keep not My commandments;

Then will I visit their transgressions with a rod, and their iniquities with stripes.

Nevertheless My mercy will I not utterly take from them, nor wrong them in My truth.

Neither will I profane My covenant, nor make void the things that go out of My lips.

Once have I sworn by My holiness, that I will not lie unto David.

His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before Me, and as the moon that is established for ever, and as a faithful witness in heaven.

But Thou hast cast off and brought to nought; Thou hast been wroth with Thine anointed.

Thou hast destroyed the covenant of Thy servant; Thou hast profaned his sanctuary to the ground.

Thou hast broken down all his hedges; Thou hast made his stronghold a terror.

All that pass by the way have spoiled him; he is become a reproach to his neighbours.

Thou hast set up the right hand of them that afflict him, Thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.

Thou hast turned the help of his sword, and hast not holpen him in battle.

Thou hast made an end of his purification; Thou hast cast his throne down to the ground.

The days of his time hast Thou shortened; Thou hast covered him with shame.

How long, O Lord? wilt Thou hide Thyself for ever? shall Thy wrath burn like fire?

Remember what my substance is. For hast Thou created all the sons of man in vain?

What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? Shall he deliver his soul out of the hand of hell?

Lord, where are Thine ancient mercies, which Thou swarest unto David in Thy truth?

Remember, Lord, the reproach of Thy servants, which I have endured in my bosom of many nations.

Wherewith Thine enemies have reproached, O Lord, wherewith they have reproached the reward of Thine anointed.

Blessed be the Lord for evermore. So be it. So be it.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 89

A prayer of Moses, the man of God.

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in generation and generation.

Before the mountains were brought forth, and the earth and the world were formed, from everlasting to everlasting Thou art.

Turn not man away to lowliness; Thou hast said, Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in Thy sight, O Lord, are but as yesterday which is past, and as a watch in the night.

Things of no account shall their years be; in the morning as the grass shall man pass away.

In the morning he shall flourish, and pass away, in the evening he shall fall, and become withered and dry.

For we have fainted in Thine anger, and have been troubled in Thy wrath.

Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our life in the light of Thy countenance.

For all our days are spent, and in Thy wrath have we fainted away; our years like a spider have spun out their tale.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten, and if we be in strength, then fourscore years; and more than these is labour and travail, for weakness is come upon us, and we shall be chastened.

Who knoweth the power of Thine anger? and for fear of Thee who can recount Thy wrath?

So make Thy right hand known to me, and to them that are learned in heart in wisdom.

Return, O Lord, how long? and be Thou entreated for Thy servants.

We have been satisfied early with Thy mercy, O Lord, and we have rejoiced, and been glad.

Let us be glad all our days for the days wherein Thou hast humbled us, for the years wherein we have seen evils.

And look upon Thy servants, and upon Thy works, and guide Thou their sons.

And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands prosper Thou upon us.

PSALM 90

A song of praise of David. Untitled in the Hebrew.

He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide under the shelter of the God of heaven.

He will say to the Lord, Thou art my helper and my refuge; my God, and in Him will I hope.

For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters, and from every sharp word.

He shall overshadow thee with His shoulders, and under His wings shalt thou trust; His truth shall compass thee with a shield.

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the thing that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and the devil at noon.

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and see the reward of the wicked.

Because Thou, Lord, art my hope. Thou hast made the Most High thy refuge.

There shall no evils come upon thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Thou shalt tread upon the asp and basilisk, and the lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

Because he hath set his hope in Me, therefore will I deliver him; I will shelter him, because he hath known My name.

He shall cry unto Me, and I will hear him; I am with him in trouble, and I will deliver him, and glorify him.

With long life will I satisfy him, and show him My salvation.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE THIRTEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 91

A Psalm of a song for the Sabbath Day.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Thou Most High.

To show forth Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth in the night, upon a psaltery of ten strings, with a song upon the harp.

For Thou, Lord, hast made me glad through Thy works, and I will rejoice in the works of Thy hands.

O Lord, how great are Thy works! Thy thoughts are very deep,

A senseless man knoweth not, neither doth a fool understand this.

When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do look down,

It is that they may be destroyed for ever.

But Thou, Lord, art most High for evermore.

For lo, Thine enemies, O Lord, for lo, Thine enemies shall perish, and all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

But my horn shall be exalted like the horn of an unicorn, and mine old age shall be strengthened with rich oil.

Mine eye also hath looked down upon mine enemies, and mine ear shall hear of the wicked that rise up against me.

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and increase like a cedar of Libanus.

Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall still bring forth fruit in a ripe old age, and happy shall they be to show that Lord our God is upright, and that there is no unrighteousness in Him.

PSALM 92

A song of praise on the day before the Sabbath: by David, when the earth was first inhabited.

The Lord reigneth, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself. For He hath established the world, which shall not be moved.

Thy throne is established of old, Thou art from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voices; the floods shall lift up their waves at the voice of many waters.

Wonderful are the surgings of the sea, the Lord is wonderful on high.

Thy testimonies are very sure; holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord, for ever.

PSALM 93

A Psalm of David, for the fourth day of the week.

The Lord is God, to whom vengeance belongeth; the God of vengeance hath spoken freely.

Lift up Thyself, Thou that judgest the earth; render their reward to the proud.

Lord, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked boast?

How long shall they utter and speak unrighteousness? How long shall all the workers of iniquity speak thus?

They have brought Thy people low, O Lord, and have hurt Thine inheritance.

They have slain the widow and the fatherless, and have murdered the stranger.

Yet they have said, The Lord shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard it.

Understand, ye senseless among the people, and ye fools, at length be wise.

He that planted the ear, shall He not hear? or he that formed the eye, shall He not see?

He that chastiseth the heathen, shall not He rebuke, He that teacheth man knowledge?

The Lord knoweth the thoughts of men, that they are vanity.

Blessed is the man whom Thou shalt chasten, O Lord, and teach out of Thy law.

That Thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until a pit be digged for the wicked.

For the Lord will not cast off His people, neither will He forsake His inheritance,

Until righteousness return unto judgment, and all the upright in heart are nigh unto it.

Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up with me against the workers of iniquity?

Unless the Lord had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in Hell.

When I said, My foot hath slipped; Thy mercy, O Lord, brought me help.

According to the multitude of my sorrows in my heart, Thy comforts have given gladness to my soul.

Let not the throne of iniquity have fellowship with Thee, which frameth mischief in the name of the law.

They will hunt down the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood.

But the Lord is my refuge, and my God is the help of my hope.

And the Lord shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and according to their wickedness the Lord God shall cut them off.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 94

A song of praise of David. Untitled in the Hebrew.

O come, let us exult in the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to God our Saviour.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great king over all the earth.

For in His hand are the ends of the earth, and the heights of the mountains are His also.

For the sea is His, and He made it; and His hands formed the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Him, and weep before the Lord that made us.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, as in the day of temptation in the wilderness.

For your fathers tempted Me, proved Me, and saw My works.

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, They do always err in their hearts, and they have not known My ways.

So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into My rest.

PSALM 95

A song of David, when the House was built after the captivity. Untitled in the Hebrew.

O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the earth.

Sing unto the Lord, bless His name; show forth the good news of His salvation from day to day.

Declare His glory among the heathen, and His wonders among all people.

For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the nations are demons, but the Lord made the heavens.

Praise and beauty are before Him; holiness and majesty are in His sanctuary.

Bring unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the nations, bring unto the Lord glory and honour; bring unto the Lord the glory due unto His name.

Bring offerings, and go into His courts. Worship the Lord in His holy court; let all the earth be moved at His presence.

Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth, for He hath established the world, which shall not be moved; He shall judge the people uprightly.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea be moved, and the fulness thereof. The fields shall rejoice, and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord; for He cometh, for He cometh to judge the earth.

He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with His truth.

PSALM 96

For David, when his land was restored to him. Untitled in the Hebrew.

The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about Him; righteousness and judgment are the foundation of His throne.

A fire shall go before Him, and burn up His enemies round about.

His lightnings shone forth throughout the world; the earth saw, and was moved.

The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declared His righteousness, and all the people saw His glory.

Confounded be all they that worship graven things, that boast themselves of their idols; worship Him, all ye His angels.

Sion heard, and was glad, and the daughters of Judea rejoiced because of Thy judgments, O Lord.

For Thou art the Lord Most High over all the earth; Thou art exalted far above all gods.

Ye that love the Lord, hate evil. The Lord preserveth the souls of His saints; He will deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Light hath dawned for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 97

A Psalm of David.

O sing unto the Lord a new song, for the Lord hath done marvellous things.

His right hand, and His holy arm, have wrought salvation for Him.

The Lord hath made known His salvation; His righteousness hath He openly showed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered His mercy to Jacob, and His truth to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth; sing, rejoice, and sing praise.

Sing unto the Lord with the harp, with the harp, and the voice of a psalm; with trumpets, and the sound of a horn.

Make a joyful noise before the Lord our King; let the sea be moved, and the fulness thereof; the world, and all they that dwell therein.

The floods shall clap their hands, the mountains shall rejoice at the presence of the Lord; for He cometh, He cometh to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall He judge the world, and the people with equity.

PSALM 98

A Psalm of David.

The Lord reigneth; let the people rage: He sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be moved.

The Lord is great in Sion, and He is high above all the people.

Let them praise Thy great name, for it is terrible and holy; the king's honour also loveth judgment.

Thou hast established equity, Thou hast executed judgment and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool; for He is holy.

Moses and Aaron among His priests, and Samuel among them that call upon His name; they called upon the Lord, and He heard them.

He spake unto them in the pillar of the cloud, for they kept His testimonies, and the ordinances that He gave them.

Thou heardest them, O Lord our God; Thou wast ready to forgive them, O God, yet Thou tookest vengeance of all their inventions.

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

PSALM 99

A Psalm of thanksgiving of David.

Make a joyful noise unto God, all the earth; serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before His presence with rejoicing.

Know ye that the Lord, He is our God; it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise; be thankful unto Him, and praise His name.

For the Lord is good; His mercy endureth for ever and ever, and His truth from generation to generation.

PSALM 100

A Psalm of David.

I will sing of mercy and judgment unto Thee, O Lord.

I will sing, and have understanding in a perfect way; when wilt Thou come unto me? I walked within my house in the innocence of my heart.

I have set no unlawful thing before mine eyes; I hated the workers of iniquities.

A froward heart cleaved not to me, and I would not know the wicked man who turned from me.

Whoso privily slandered his neighbour, him did I drive away from me.

With him that had a high look and an insatiate heart, I would not eat.

My eyes were upon the faithful of the land, that they might sit with me; the man that walked in the perfect way, he served me.

He that worketh pride dwelt not within my house; he that telleth lies prospered not in my sight.

In the morning I destroyed all the wicked of the land, that I might cut off all wicked doers from the city of the Lord.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE FOURTEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 101

A prayer of the poor man, when he was anxious, and poured out his supplication before the Lord.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come unto Thee.

Turn not away Thy face from me; in the day when I am in trouble incline Thine ear unto me; in the day when I call unto Thee, hear me speedily.

For my days have vanished like smoke, and my bones are consumed like wood for burning.

I am smitten like grass, and my heart is withered, for I forgot to eat my bread.

By reason of the voice of my groaning, my bone hath cleaved to my flesh.

I am become like a pelican of the wilderness; I am become like an owl within a ruined house.

I have watched, and am become as a sparrow that sitteth alone upon the housetop.

Mine enemies reproached me all the day, and they that praised me are sworn against me.

For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping, because of Thine indignation and Thy wrath:

For Thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.

My days have declined like a shadow, and I am withered like grass.

But Thou, O Lord, endurest for ever, and Thy remembrance from generation to generation.

Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Sion; for it is time to have mercy upon on her, yea, the time is come.

For Thy servants have taken pleasure in her stones, and they shall have pity for the dust thereof.

And the heathen shall fear Thy name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Thy glory.

For the Lord shall build up Sion, and He shall be seen in His glory.

He hath regarded the prayer of the humble, and hath not despised their supplication.

Let this be written for a generation to come, and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord.

For He hath looked out from His holy height; out of heaven did the Lord behold the earth,

To hear the groaning of the prisoners; to deliver the sons of the slain;

To declare the name of the Lord in Sion, and His praise in Jerusalem.

When the people are gathered together, and the kings, to serve the Lord.

He answered him in the way of his strength, Declare unto me the fewness of my days.

Take me not away in the midst of my days; Thy years are from generation to generation.

Thou, Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands.

They shall perish, but Thou endurest; yea, they shall all wax old as a garment, and as a vesture shalt Thou fold them, and they shall be changed.

But Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail.

The sons of Thy servants shall dwell, and their seed shall be guided aright for ever.

PSALM 102

Of David.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thine infirmities.

Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, who crowneth thee with mercy and loving kindness.

Who satisfieth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord executeth mercy and judgment for all that are wronged.

He made known His ways unto Moses, His will unto the children of Israel.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy. He will not always be angry, neither will He be wrathful for ever.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

For as the heaven is high above the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us.

Like as a father hath compassion upon his children, so hath the Lord compassion on them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he flourish.

For when the wind hath passed over it, it shall be gone, and it will know the place thereof no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him.

And His righteousness upon children's children, upon such as keep His testament, and remember His commandments to do them.

The Lord hath prepared His throne in heaven, and His kingdom ruleth over all.

Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hearken unto the voice of His words.

Bless ye the Lord, all ye His hosts, ye ministers of His that do His pleasure.

Bless the Lord, all ye works of His, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 103

Of David, when the earth was established.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art become exceeding magnified.

Thou hast put on praise and majesty; who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment.

Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain; who supporteth His chambers in the waters.

Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, who walketh upon the wings of the wind.

Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flaming fire.

Who hath established the earth upon its sure foundation; it shall not be moved for ever and ever.

The deep like a garment is its mantle; the waters shall stand upon the mountains.

At Thy rebuke they shall flee; at the voice of Thy thunder they shall be afraid.

The mountains rise up, and the plains go down, unto the place which Thou hast founded for them.

Thou hast set a bound that they shall not pass over, neither turn again to cover the earth.

He sendeth the springs into the valleys; the waters shall run among the mountains.

They shall give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses shall wait to quench their thirst.

By them shall the fowls of the air make their habitation; they shall give voice from the midst of the rocks.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works.

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men.

That he may bring forth bread out of the earth: and wine maketh glad the heart of man.

To make his face cheerful with oil: and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Libanus which Thou hast planted.

There shall the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them.

The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down.

Thou appointedst darkness, and there was night, wherein all the beasts of the forest shall go abroad.

Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their meat from God.

The sun arose, and they were gathered together, and they shall lay them down in their dens.

But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labour until the evening.

O Lord, how magnified are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made all things; the earth is filled with Thy creation.

So is this great and wide sea also, wherein are things creeping innumerable, creatures small and great.

There go the ships, there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein.

All things look unto Thee, that Thou mayest give them their meat in due season.

When Thou givest it them, they shall gather it; when Thou openest Thine hand, all things shall be filled with good.

When Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled; Thou shalt take away their breath, and they shall fail, and return to their dust.

Thou shalt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created, and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord endure for ever; the Lord shall rejoice in His works.

He looketh upon the earth, and maketh it tremble; He toucheth the mountains, and they smoke.

I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live, I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.

Let my words be pleasing unto Him; and I will be glad in the Lord.

O that sinners might be consumed out of the earth, and the workers of iniquity, so that they be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 104

Alleluia.

O give thanks to the Lord, and call upon His name; make known His deeds among the nations.

Sing unto Him, sing psalms unto Him; talk ye of all His wondrous works.

Glory ye in His holy name; let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

Seek the Lord, and be strengthened; seek His face at all times.

Remember His marvellous works that He hath done; His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth.

O ye seed of Abraham His servant, ye children of Jacob His chosen.

He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth.

He hath remembered His covenant for ever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations;

Which He made with Abraham, and His oath unto Isaac.

And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant.

Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Chanaan, the lot of your inheritance.

When they were but a few men in number, very few, and strangers in it.

And they went from one nation to another, from one kingdom to another people.

He suffered no man to do them wrong; yea, He reproved kings for their sake;

Saying, Touch not Mine anointed, and do My prophets no harm.

Moreover He called for a famine upon the land; He brake the whole staff of bread.

He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a slave.

Whose feet they humbled with fetters; his life was spent in irons, until his word came to pass.

The word of the Lord tried him, the king sent and loosed him, even the ruler of the people, and let him go free.

He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his substance;

To instruct his princes as himself, and teach his elders wisdom.

Israel also came into Egypt, and Jacob sojourned in the land of Cham.

And He increased His people greatly, and made them stronger than their enemies.

He turned their heart to hate His people, and to deal subtilly with His servants.

He sent Moses His servant, and Aaron whom He had chosen.

He established His signs among them, and His wonders in the land of Cham.

He sent darkness, and made it dark; for they were embittered against His words.

He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish.

Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the inner chambers of their kings.

He spake, and the dog fly came, and gnats in all their coasts.

He gave them hail for rain, and flaming fire in their land.

He smote their vines also and their fig trees, and brake all the trees of their coasts.

He spake, and the locust came, and caterpillars, and that without number,

And did eat up all the herbs in their land, and devoured all the fruit of their land.

He smote also all the firstborn in their land; the first fruits of all their labour.

He brought them forth also with silver and gold, and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

Egypt was glad when they departed, for the fear of them fell upon them.

He spread a cloud for a covering for them, and fire to give them light in the night.

They asked, and the quail came; and He satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out; the rivers ran in dry places.

For He remembered His holy promise, which He had spoken unto Abraham His servant.

And He brought forth His people with joy, and His chosen with gladness.

And gave them the lands of the heathen, and they inherited the labour of the people.

That they might observe His statutes, and seek His law.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE FIFTEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 105

Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever.

Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? Who can make all His praises to be heard?

Blessed are they that keep judgment, and do righteousness at all times.

Remember us, O Lord, with Thy favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people; O visit us with Thy salvation.

That we may see the good of Thy chosen, that we may rejoice in the gladness of Thy nation, that we may glory with Thine inheritance.

We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.

Our fathers understood not Thy wonders in Egypt, and they remembered not the multitude of Thy mercy; but provoked Thee as they went up by the Red Sea.

Nevertheless He saved them for His name's sake, that he might make His mighty power to be known.

He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it was dried up; so He led them into the depths, as in a wilderness.

And He saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

The waters covered their oppressors; there was not one of them left.

Then believed they His words, and sang His praise.

They made haste, they forgot His works, they waited not for His counsel;

But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.

And He gave them their request, and sent fulness into their souls.

They provoked Moses also in the camp, and Aaron, the holy one of the Lord.

The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abiron.

And a fire was kindled in their company; the flame burned up the wicked.

And they made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the graven thing.

Thus they changed His glory into the similitude of a calf that eateth grass.

And they forgot God which had saved them, which had done great things in Egypt,

Wondrous works in the land of Cham, terrible things at the Red Sea.

And He said that He would destroy them, had not Moses His chosen stood before Him in the breach, to turn away His wrath, lest He should destroy them.

Yea, they despised the desirable land; they believed not His word.

But murmured in their tents; they hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord.

Therefore He lifted up His hand against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness, to overthrow their seed among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands.

They were made initiate also of Baal-phegor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead.

And they provoked Him to anger with their inventions, and destruction was multiplied among them.

And Phineas stood up and made propitiation, and the plague abated. And that was counted unto him for righteousness, from generation to generation for ever.

They provoked Him also at the waters of strife, and Moses was hurt for their sakes.

Because they provoked his spirit, and he gave commandment with his lips.

They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the Lord commanded them.

They were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works; and they served their graven images, and it became a scandal to them.

Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, and shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed to the graven things of Chanaan.

And the land was murderously defiled with blood, and was polluted with their own works, and they went a whoring with their own inventions.

Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against His people, and He abhorred His own inheritance.

And He gave them into the hand of the enemy, and they that hated them were lords over them.

Their enemies also afflicted them, and they were brought down into subjection under their hand.

Many times did He deliver them, but they provoked him with their counsel, and were brought low in their iniquities.

Nevertheless the Lord regarded them in their affliction, and heard their supplication.

And He remembered His covenant, and repented according to the multitude of His mercy.

He made them to be pitied in the sight of all those that had taken them captive.

Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the heathen, that we may give thanks unto Thy holy name, that we may glory in Thy praise.

Blessed be the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting; and all the peoples shall say, So be it, so be it.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 106

Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy, and gathered them out of the lands; from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the sea.

They wandered in the wilderness in a way, in a waterless place; they found not the way to a city of habitation.

Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.

Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses.

And He led them forth into the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.

Let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful works to the children of men.

For He hath satisfied the empty soul, and filled the hungry soul with goodness.

Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, bound in poverty and iron,

Because they rebelled against the words of God, and provoked the counsel of the Most High.

Their heart also was brought down with labours; they waxed feeble, and there was none to help.

Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses.

And He brought them out of darkness, and the shadow of death; and brake their bonds asunder.

Let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful works to the children of men.

For He hath broken the gates of brass, and shattered the bars of iron.

He helped them out of the way of their transgressions, for they were brought low because of their iniquities.

Their soul abhorred all manner of meat, and they drew near unto the gates of death.

And they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses.

He sent his Word, and healed them, and delivered them from their corruption.

Let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful works to the children of men.

And let them sacrifice to Him a sacrifice of praise, and declare His works with gladness.

They that go down to the sea in ships, that do their business in great waters;

These men have seen the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep.

He spake the word, and a storm of wind arose; and the waves thereof were lifted up.

They mount up to the heavens, and they go down into the depths; their soul melted away with evils.

They were troubled, and they staggered as a drunken man; and all their wisdom was swallowed up.

Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distresses.

And He commanded the storm, and it was calmed into a breeze; and the waves thereof fell silent.

Then were they glad, because they were stilled; and He guided them unto the haven of His will.

Let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful works to the children of men.

Let them exalt Him in the congregation of the people, and praise Him in the seat of the elders.

He hath turned rivers into a wilderness, and the springs of waters into dry ground;

A fruitful land into saltness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

He turned a wilderness into pools of waters, and a parched land into streams of waters.

And there He made the hungry to dwell, and they prepared cities for habitation,

And sowed the fields, and planted vineyards, which yielded fruits of increase.

He blessed them also, so that they were multiplied greatly; and He suffered not their cattle to decrease.

And again, they were diminished and brought low through affliction, evils, and sorrow.

Contempt was poured upon their princes; and He caused them to wander in a wilderness, where there is no way.

And He helped the poor out of his poverty, and made his families like a flock.

The upright shall see it, and rejoice, and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.

Who is wise, and will observe these things, and will understand the mercy of the Lord?

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 107

A song of a Psalm of David.

O God, my heart is ready, my heart is ready; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.

Awake, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.

I will praise Thee, O Lord, among the peoples, I will sing praises unto Thee among the nations.

For Thy mercy is great above the heavens, and Thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

Be Thou exalted, O God, above the heavens, and Thy glory above all the earth.

That Thy beloved may be delivered, save with Thy right hand, and hear Thou me.

God hath spoken in his holy place, I will be exalted, and divide Sikim, and mete out the valley of tents.

Galaad is Mine, and Manasses is Mine; Ephraim also is the strength of My head, Judea is My king.

Moab is the cauldron of My hope, over Idumea will I stretch out My shoe; the strangers are made subject unto Me.

Who will lead me into the fortified city? Or who will lead me into Idumea?

Wilt not Thou, O God, who hast cast us off? And wilt not Thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?

Give us help from trouble, for vain is the salvation of man.

Through God shall we do mightily; and He shall bring our enemies to nought.

PSALM 108

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

O God, pass not over my praise in silence, for the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me.

They have spoken against me with a lying tongue, they have compassed me about also with words of hatred, and fought against me without a cause.

For my love they falsely accused me; but I gave myself unto prayer.

And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love.

Set Thou a wicked man over him, and let the devil stand at his right hand.

When he shall be judged, let him go forth condemned, and let his prayer become sin.

Let his days be few, and let another take his office.

Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.

Let his children be vagabonds without a dwelling place, and beg, and let them be cast out of their ruined habitations.

Let his creditor search out all his substance, and let the strangers spoil all his labours.

Let there be none to help him, neither let there be any to have pity upon his fatherless children.

Let his children be given over to destruction; in one generation let his name be blotted out.

Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the Lord, and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.

Let them be before the Lord continually, and let the memory of them perish from the earth.

Because that he remembered not to show mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy, and one broken in heart, that he might slay him.

And he loved cursing, and it shall come upon him, and he delighted not in blessing, and it shall be far from him.

And he put on cursing like a garment, and it came into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones.

Let it be unto him as a garment wherewith he is clothed, and like a girdle wherewith he is girded continually.

This is the dealing of the Lord with them that slander me, and with them that speak evil against my soul.

But do Thou for me, O Lord, Lord, for Thy name's sake, for Thy mercy is good.

Deliver Thou me, for I am poor and needy, and my heart is troubled within me.

I am taken away like a shadow when it declineth; I am shaken off as the locusts.

My knees are weak through fasting, and my flesh is changed for want of oil.

I am become a reproach also unto them; they looked upon me, and they shook their heads.

Help me, O Lord my God, and save me according to Thy mercy.

And let them know that this is Thy hand, and that Thou, O Lord, hast done it.

They shall curse, but Thou shalt bless; let them be put to shame that rise up against me; but Thy servant shall be glad.

Let them that slander me be clothed with confusion, and let them be covered with shame, as with a double cloak.

I will greatly praise the Lord with my mouth; yea, in the midst of many will I praise Him.

For He hath stood at the right hand of the poor, to save my soul from them that persecute me.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE SIXTEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 109

A Psalm of David.

The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit Thou at my right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.

The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Sion; rule Thou in the midst of Thine enemies.

With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the splendour of Thy saints.

From the womb before the morning star have I begotten Thee.

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedech.

The Lord at Thy right hand hath broken kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall judge among the heathen, He shall fill them up with the dead bodies; He shall crush the heads of many upon the earth.

He shall drink of the brook in the way; therefore shall He lift up his head.

PSALM 110

Alleluia.

I will give Thee thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great, sought out in all that He hath willed.

His work is thanksgiving and majesty, and His righteousness endureth for ever and ever.

He hath made His wonderful works to be remembered; the Lord is merciful and full of compassion.

He hath given meat unto them that fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant.

He hath shown His people the power of His works, that He may give them the heritage of the heathen.

The works of His hands are verity and judgment, all His commandments are sure, made fast for ever and ever, done in truth and uprightness.

He sent redemption unto His people, He hath commanded His covenant for ever; holy and terrible is His name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and a good understanding have all they that do accordingly.

His praise endureth for ever and ever.

PSALM 111

Alleluia.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; he shall delight greatly in His commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Glory and riches shall be in his house, and his righteousness endureth for ever and ever.

Unto the upright there hath arisen light in the darkness; he is merciful, and full of compassion, and righteous.

The good man is he that is showeth compassion, and lendeth; he will order his words with discretion, for he shall not be moved for ever and ever.

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is ready to hope in the Lord.

His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever and ever, his horn shall be exalted in glory.

The wicked shall see it, and be angry; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away; the desire of the wicked shall perish.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 112

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord, ye servants; praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time forth, and for evermore.

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the Lord's name is to be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations; His glory is above the heavens.

Who is like unto the Lord our God,

Who dwelleth on high, and beholdeth the things that are lowly in heaven, and in the earth?

He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill,

That He may set him with princes, even with the princes of His people.

He maketh the barren woman to dwell in a house, a mother rejoicing over children.

PSALM 113

Alleluia.

When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from among a barbarous people,

Judea was his sanctuary, and Israel his dominion.

The sea saw it, and fled; Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams, and the hills like lambs of the flock.

What ailed thee, O sea, that thou fleddest? and thou, Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams, and ye hills, like lambs of the flock?

The earth trembled at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Who turneth the rock into pools of water, and the sharp rock into fountains of water.

Not unto us, Lord, not to us, but unto Thy name give glory, for Thy mercy and truth's sake.

Lest the heathen should say, Where is their God?

But our God is in the heavens and on earth; He hath done whatsoever He pleased.

The idols of the heathen are of silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

They have a mouth, but they speak not; they have eyes, but they see not.

They have ears, but they hear not; noses have they, but they smell not.

They have hands, but they handle not; feet have they, but they walk not; neither speak they through their throat.

Let them that make them become like unto them, yea, all who put their trust in them.

The house of Israel hath hoped in the Lord; He is their help, and their defender.

The house of Aaron hath hoped in the Lord; He is their help, and their defender.

They that fear the Lord have hoped in the Lord; He is their help, and their defender.

The Lord hath been mindful of us, and hath blessed us; He hath blessed the house of Israel, He hath blessed the house of Aaron.

He hath blessed them that fear the Lord, both small and great.

The Lord increase you, you and your children.

Ye are blessed of the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

The heaven of heavens is the Lord's, but the earth hath He given to the children of men.

The dead shall not praise Thee, O Lord, neither any that go down into hell.

But we who live will bless the Lord, from this time forth, and for evermore.

PSALM 114

Alleluia.

I am filled with love, for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication.

Because He hath inclined His ear unto me, and I will call upon Him as long as I live.

The sorrows of death have compassed me, and the perils of hell have found me. I have found trouble and sorrow, and I called upon the name of the Lord, O Lord, deliver my soul.

Merciful is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.

The Lord preserveth the simple; I was brought low, and He saved me.

Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.

For He hath delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

I will be well pleasing before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 115

Alleluia.

I believed, and therefore have I spoken; I was greatly humbled.

I said in my madness, All men are liars.

What shall I render unto the Lord for all that He hath rendered unto me?

I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the presence of all His people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

O Lord, I am Thy servant; I am Thy servant, and the son of Thine handmaid; Thou hast broken my bonds asunder.

I will sacrifice to Thee a sacrifice of praise, and will call upon the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.

PSALM 116

Alleluia.

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.

PSALM 117

Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endureth for ever.

Let the house of Israel now say that He is good, for His mercy endureth for ever.

Let the house of Aaron now say that He is good, for His mercy endureth for ever.

Let all that fear the Lord now say that He is good, for His mercy endureth for ever.

I called upon the Lord out of affliction, and the Lord heard me, and set me at large.

The Lord is my help, and I will not fear what man shall do to me.

The Lord is my help, and I shall see my desire upon mine enemies.

It is better to trust in the Lord than to trust in man.

It is better to hope in the Lord than to hope in princes.

All nations compassed me about, but in the name of the Lord I repulsed them.

They compassed me about, yea, they compassed me about; but in the name of the Lord I repulsed them.

They compassed me about, like bees around a honeycomb, and they burst into flame as fire among the thorns; but in the name of the Lord I repulsed them.

I was thrust, and sore shaken, that I might fall; but the Lord was quick to help me.

The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.

The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous.

The right hand of the Lord hath wrought mightily, the right hand of the Lord hath exalted me; the right hand of the Lord hath wrought mightily.

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

The Lord hath chastened me sore, but He hath not given me over unto death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter by it.

I will praise Thee, for Thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

The stone which the builder rejected is become the head stone of the corner.

This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save now, O Lord; O Lord, send now prosperity.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; we have blessed you out of the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and hath appeared unto us; appoint a feast with thick branches, even to the horns of the altar.

Thou art my God, and I will praise Thee; Thou art my God, and I will exalt Thee.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE SEVENTEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 118

Alleluia.

Blessed are they that are blameless in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Blessed are they that search out His testimonies; they shall seek Him with their whole heart.

For they that work iniquity have not walked in His ways.

Thou hast commanded that Thy commandments be kept most diligently.

O that my ways may be directed to keep Thy statutes!

Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all Thy commandments.

I will praise Thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned the judgments of Thy righteousness.

I will keep Thy statutes; O forsake me not utterly.

Wherewithal shall a young man correct his way? even by keeping Thy words.

With my whole heart have I sought Thee; cast me not away from Thy commandments.

Thy words have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes.

With my lips have I declared all the judgments of Thy mouth.

I have had delight in the way of Thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.

I will meditate on Thy commandments, and understand Thy ways.

I will meditate in Thy statutes; I will not forget Thy words.

Give recompense unto Thy servant; quicken Thou me, and I shall keep Thy words.

Open Thou my eyes, and I shall behold the wondrous things out of Thy law.

I am a stranger in the earth; hide not Thy commandments from me.

My soul hath longed greatly to desire Thy judgments at all times.

Thou hast rebuked the proud; cursed are they which do err from Thy commandments.

Remove from me reproach and contempt, for I have sought Thy testimonies.

Princes also did sit and speak against me, but Thy servant did meditate in Thy statutes.

For Thy testimonies are my meditation, and Thy statutes are my counsels.

My soul hath cleaved unto the dust; quicken Thou me according to Thy word.

I have declared my ways, and Thou heardest me; teach me Thy statutes.

Make me to understand the way of Thy precepts, and I will meditate upon Thy wondrous works.

My soul hath slumbered for heaviness; strengthen Thou me in Thy words.

Remove from me the way of iniquity, and have mercy upon me with Thy law.

I have chosen the way of truth, and have not forgotten Thy judgments.

I have stuck unto Thy testimonies; O Lord, put me not to shame.

I have run the way of Thy commandments, when Thou hast enlarged my heart.

Set before me for a law, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes; and I shall seek it always.

Give me understanding, and I shall seek Thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

Make me to go in the path of Thy commandments, for I have longed for it.

Incline my heart to Thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.

Turn away mine eyes, that I behold not vanity; quicken Thou me in Thy way.

Stablish Thy word unto Thy servant, in fear of Thee.

Take away my reproach which I have feared, for Thy judgments are good.

Behold, I have longed after Thy precepts; quicken me in Thy righteousness.

Let Thy mercy come also upon me, O Lord, even Thy salvation, according to Thy word.

So shall I make answer unto them that reproach me, for I have hoped in Thy words.

And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for I have hoped in Thy judgments.

So shall I keep Thy law continually for ever and ever.

And I walked at liberty, for I sought Thy precepts.

I spake of Thy testimonies also before kings, and was not ashamed.

And I meditated on Thy commandments, which I have loved exceedingly.

My hands also have I lifted up unto Thy commandments, which I have loved; and I meditated in Thy statutes.

Remember Thy words unto Thy servant, upon which Thou hast caused me to hope.

This hath comforted me in my affliction, for Thy word hath quickened me.

The proud have transgressed exceedingly, yet have I not declined from Thy law.

I remembered Thy judgments of old, O Lord, and was comforted.

Despondency hath taken hold upon me, because of the wicked that forsake Thy law.

Thy statutes have been my songs in the place of my pilgrimage.

I have remembered Thy name, O Lord, in the night, and have kept Thy law.

This happened to me, because I sought Thy precepts.

Thou art my portion, O Lord; I have said that I would keep Thy law.

I entreated Thy face with my whole heart; be merciful unto me according to Thy word.

I have thought on Thy ways, and turned my feet unto Thy testimonies.

I made ready, and was not troubled, that I might keep Thy commandments.

The cords of the wicked have encompassed me, but I have not forgotten Thy law.

At midnight I rose to give thanks unto Thee, because of the judgments of Thy righteousness.

I am a companion of all them that fear Thee, and of them that keep Thy precepts.

The earth, O Lord, is full of Thy mercy; teach me Thy statutes.

Thou hast dealt graciously with Thy servant, O Lord, according unto Thy word.

Teach me goodness and discipline and knowledge, for I have believed Thy commandments.

Before I was humbled I went astray; therefore have I kept Thy word.

Thou art good, O Lord, and in Thy goodness teach me Thy statutes.

The injustice of the proud is multiplied against me, but I will seek Thy commandments with my whole heart.

Their heart is curdled like milk, but I have meditated on Thy law.

It is good for me that Thou hast humbled me, that I might learn Thy statutes.

The law of Thy mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

Second Stasis

Thy hands have made me and fashioned me; give me understanding, and I shall learn Thy commandments.

They that fear Thee shall see me, and be glad, because I have hoped in Thy words.

I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right, and that with truth Thou hast humbled me.

Let Thy mercy now be for my comfort, according to Thy word unto Thy servant.

Let Thy tender mercies come unto me, and I shall live; for Thy law is my meditation.

Let the proud be ashamed, for they have transgressed against me unjustly; but I will meditate on Thy commandments.

Let those that fear Thee turn unto me, and those that know Thy testimonies.

Let my heart be blameless in Thy statutes, that I be not ashamed.

My soul fainteth for Thy salvation; I have hoped in Thy words.

Mine eyes have failed for Thy word, saying, When wilt Thou comfort me?

For I am become like a wineskin in the frost, yet have I not forgotten Thy statutes.

How many are the days of Thy servant? When wilt Thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?

Transgressors told me idle tales, but they are not after Thy law, O Lord.

All Thy commandments are truth; they persecuted me wrongfully, help Thou me.

They had almost made an end of me upon earth, but I forsook not Thy precepts.

Quicken me according to Thy mercy, and I shall keep the testimonies of Thy mouth.

For ever, O Lord, Thy word endureth in heaven.

Thy truth is unto generation and generation; Thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

The day continueth according to Thine ordinance, for all things are Thy servants.

If Thy law had not been my meditation, I should have perished in my humiliation.

I will never forget Thy precepts, for by them Thou hast quickened me.

Middle

I am Thine, save me; for I have sought Thy precepts.

The wicked have waited for me to destroy me, but I have understood Thy testimonies.

I have seen an end of all perfection, but Thy commandment is exceeding broad.

O how have I loved Thy law, O Lord! It is my meditation all the day.

Thou through Thy commandment hast made me wiser than mine enemies, for it is mine for ever.

I had more understanding than all my teachers, for Thy testimonies are my meditation.

I had more understanding than mine elders, because I sought Thy commandments.

I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep Thy words.

I have not departed from Thy judgments, for Thou hast appointed a law for me.

How sweet are Thy words unto my throat! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth.

Through Thy commandments have I gained understanding; therefore have I hated every unrighteous way.

Thy law is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my paths.

I have sworn, and am steadfastly purposed, that I will keep the judgments of Thy righteousness.

I have been humbled exceedingly; quicken me, O Lord, according unto Thy word.

Be pleased with the freewill offerings of my mouth, O Lord, and teach me Thy judgments.

My soul is continually in Thy hand, yet have I not forgotten Thy law.

Sinners have laid a snare for me, yet I erred not from Thy precepts.

Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever, for they are the rejoicing of my heart.

I have inclined my heart to perform Thy statutes for ever, for a recompense.

I have hated transgressors, but Thy law have I loved.

Thou art my helper and defender; I have hoped in Thy words.

Depart from me, ye evil doers, and I will search the commandments of my God.

Uphold me according unto Thy word, and quicken me; and turn me not away in shame from mine expectation.

Help me, and I shall be saved, and I will meditate in Thy statutes always.

Thou hast despised all them that departed from Thy statutes, for their inward thought is unrighteous.

I have accounted as transgressors all the sinners of the earth; therefore have I loved Thy testimonies.

Nail down my flesh with the fear of Thee, for I am afraid of Thy judgments.

I have done judgment and justice; give me not over unto them that wrong me.

Receive Thy servant unto good; let not the proud accuse me falsely.

My eyes have failed for Thy salvation, and for the word of Thy righteousness.

Deal with Thy servant according unto Thy mercy, and teach me Thy statutes.

I am Thy servant; give me understanding, and I shall know Thy testimonies.

It is time for the Lord to act, for they have made void Thy law.

Therefore have I loved Thy commandments above gold and topaz.

Therefore have I directed myself according to all Thy commandments; I have hated every unrighteous way.

Thy testimonies are wonderful; therefore hath my soul sought them.

The unfolding of Thy words shall give light and understanding unto the simple.

I opened my mouth, and drew in my breath; for I longed for Thy commandments.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

Third Stasis

Look Thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, according to the judgment of those that love Thy name.

Order my steps according to Thy word, and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Deliver me from the false accusation of men, and I will keep Thy commandments.

Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant, and teach me Thy statutes.

Mine eyes have sent forth streams of water, because I kept not Thy law.

Righteous art Thou, O Lord, and upright are Thy judgments.

Thy testimonies that Thou hast commanded are very righteousness and truth.

My zeal for Thee hath made me to pine away, because mine enemies have forgotten Thy words.

Thy word hath been tried in the fire to the uttermost, and Thy servant hath loved it.

I am young and despised, yet have I not forgotten Thy statutes.

Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Thy law is truth.

Troubles and anguish have found me, yet Thy commandments are my meditation.

Thy testimonies are righteousness for ever; give me understanding, and I shall live.

I cried with my whole heart; hear me, O Lord, and I shall seek Thy statutes.

I cried unto Thee; save me, and I shall keep Thy testimonies.

I rose up before the dawn, and cried; I hoped in Thy words.

Mine eyes awoke before the morning, that I might meditate in Thy words.

Hear my voice according unto Thy mercy, O Lord; quicken me according to Thy judgment.

They draw nigh that persecute me unlawfully; they are far from Thy law.

Thou art near, O Lord, and all Thy ways are truth.

Concerning Thy testimonies, I have known of old that Thou hast founded them for ever.

Behold my humiliation, and deliver me, for I have not forgotten Thy law.

Judge Thou my cause, and deliver me; quicken me according to Thy word.

Salvation is far from the wicked, for they have not sought Thy statutes.

Many are Thy tender mercies, O Lord; quicken me according to Thy judgment.

Many are they that persecute me and afflict me, yet have I not turned aside from Thy testimonies.

I beheld the foolish and was grieved, because they kept not Thy words.

See how I have loved Thy commandments; O Lord, quicken me in Thy mercy.

The beginning of Thy words is truth, and all the judgments of Thy righteousness endure for ever.

Princes have persecuted me without a cause, and my heart hath been afraid because of Thy words.

I will rejoice at Thy words, as one that findeth great spoil.

I have hated and abhorred injustice, but Thy law have I loved.

Seven times a day have I praised Thee because of the judgments of Thy righteousness.

Great peace have they that love Thy law, and for them there is no stumbling block.

Lord, I have looked for Thy salvation, and loved Thy commandments.

My soul hath kept Thy testimonies, and loved them exceedingly.

I have kept Thy commandments and Thy testimonies, for all my ways are before Thee, O Lord.

Let my prayer draw near to Thee, O Lord; give me understanding according to Thy word.

Let my supplication come before Thee, O Lord; deliver me according to Thy word.

My lips shall pour forth Thy praise, when Thou hast taught me Thy statutes.

My tongue shall speak of Thy words, for all Thy commandments are righteousness.

Let Thine hand be near to save me, for I have chosen Thy commandments.

I have longed for Thy salvation, O Lord; and Thy law is my study.

My soul shall live, and it shall praise Thee, and Thy judgments shall help me.

I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Thy servant, for I have not forgotten Thy commandments.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE EIGHTEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 119

A song of ascents.

In mine affliction I cried unto the Lord; and He heard me.

Deliver my soul, O Lord, from unjust lips, and from a deceitful tongue.

What shall be given unto thee, or what shall be added unto thee, for a deceitful tongue?

Sharp arrows of the mighty with coals of the desert.

Woe is me, that my sojourn is prolonged; I have dwelt with the tents of Kedar; my soul hath long been a sojourner.

With them that hated peace I was peaceable; when I spake to them, they made war against me without a cause.

PSALM 120

A song of ascents.

I lifted up mine eyes unto the mountains, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Let not thy foot be moved, and let not thy keeper slumber.

Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord shall keep thee; the Lord is thy shelter upon thy right hand.

The sun shall not burn thee by day, neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; the Lord shall preserve thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy coming in and thy going out, from this time forth, and even for evermore.

PSALM 121

A song of ascents.

I was glad because of them that said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet have stood within thy courts, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city whose fellowship is complete.

For thither the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord, a testimony for Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Ask now for the things which are for the peace of Jerusalem, and for the prosperity of them that love thee.

Let peace be with thy strength, and prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I spake peace concerning thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought thy good.

PSALM 122

A song of ascents.

Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, O Thou that dwellest in the heavens.

Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, as the eyes of a handmaiden look unto the hands of her mistress, so our eyes look unto the Lord our God, until that He have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we are utterly humiliated. Our soul hath been exceedingly filled with it; let reproach come upon those that prosper, and abasement upon the proud.

PSALM 123

A song of ascents.

If it had not been that the Lord was with us, now may Israel say; if it had not been that the Lord was with us, when men rose up against us; then they had swallowed us up alive.

When their wrath was kindled against us, then the waters had overwhelmed us.

Our soul had passed through the torrent; then had our soul passed through the overwhelming water.

Blessed be the Lord, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth.

Our soul hath been delivered, as a sparrow out of the snare of the hunters.

The snare is broken, and we are delivered.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 124

A song of ascents.

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Sion; he that dwelleth in Jerusalem shall never be moved.

The mountains are round about her; so the Lord is round about His people, from henceforth even for ever.

For the Lord shall not suffer the rod of the wicked to rest upon the lot of the righteous, lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity.

Do good, O Lord, unto those that be good, and to them that are upright in their hearts.

As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the Lord shall lead them away with the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel.

PSALM 125

A song of ascents.

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion, we were like them that are comforted.

Then was our mouth was filled with gladness, and our tongue with joy.

Then shall they say among the heathen, The Lord hath done great things for them.

The Lord hath done great things for us, and we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

They went on and wept, as they cast their seed.

But they shall come again with rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them.

PSALM 126

A song of ascents.

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, he that keepeth it watcheth but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early; ye rise up after resting, ye that eat the bread of sorrow,

While He hath given his beloved sleep. Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord, the reward of the fruit of the womb.

As arrows in the hands of a mighty man, so are the children of the outcast.

Happy is the man that shall satisfy his desire with them; they shall not be ashamed when they shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

PSALM 127

A song of ascents.

Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, that walk in His ways.

Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labours; blessed art thou, and it shall be well with thee.

Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thy house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

Behold, thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord.

The Lord bless thee out of Sion,; and mayest thou see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

And mayest thou see thy children's children. Peace be upon Israel.

PSALM 128

A song of ascents.

Many a time have they fought against me from my youth up, may Israel now say;

Many a time have they fought against me from my youth up; yet they have not prevailed against me.

The sinners wrought upon my back, they prolonged their iniquity.

The Lord is righteous; He hath cut asunder the necks of the wicked.

Let them all be ashamed and turned back that hate Sion.

Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which withereth afore it is uprooted.

Wherewith the reaper filleth not his hand, nor he that gathereth sheaves his bosom.

Neither have they which go by said, The blessing of the Lord be upon you; we have blessed you in the name of the Lord.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 129

A song of ascents.

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

For there is forgiveness with Thee.

For Thy name's sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope in the Lord.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

PSALM 130

A song of ascents.

Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor are mine eyes lofty.

Neither have I exercised myself in great matters, or in things too wonderful for me.

If I had not been humble-minded, but had exalted my soul, like a child that is weaned from its mother, so wouldest Thou have requited my soul.

Let Israel hope in the Lord, from henceforth, and for ever.

PSALM 131

A song of ascents.

Lord, remember David and all his meekness; how he sware unto the Lord, and vowed unto the God of Jacob.

I will not go into the tabernacle of my house; I will not go up into the couch of my bed;

I will not give sleep to mine eyes, nor slumber to mine eyelids, nor rest to my temples,

Until I find out a place for the Lord, an habitation for the God of Jacob.

Behold, we heard it in Ephratha; we found it in the fields of the wood.

Let us go into His tabernacles; let us worship at the place where His feet have stood.

Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest; Thou, and the ark of Thine holiness.

Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy just shall rejoice.

For Thy servant David's sake turn not away Thy face from Thine anointed.

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not annul it,

Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne,

If thy children will keep My covenant and these testimonies that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

For the Lord hath chosen Sion, He hath chosen it for His habitation.

This is my rest for ever and ever; here will I dwell, for I have chosen it.

I will abundantly bless her provision, I will satisfy her poor with bread.

I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints shall rejoice with joy.

There will I make to spring forth an horn for David; I have ordained a lamp for Mine anointed.

His enemies will I clothe with shame, but upon himself shall My holiness flourish.

PSALM 132

A song of ascents.

Behold now, what is as good or as pleasant as for brethren to dwell together in unity?

It is like the oil of myrrh upon the head, that runneth down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that runneth down to the skirts of his garment;

As the dew of Hermon, that descendeth upon the mountains of Sion: for there the Lord commanded His blessing, even life for evermore.

PSALM 133

A song of ascents.

Behold now, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which stand in the house of the Lord, even in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands by night unto the sanctuary, and bless the Lord.

The Lord that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Sion.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE NINETEENTH KATHISMA

PSALM 134

Alleluia.

Praise ye the name of the Lord; O ye servants, praise the Lord,

Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praises unto His name, for it is good.

For the Lord hath chosen Jacob unto Himself, and Israel for His own possession.

For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.

Whatsoever the Lord willed, that did He in heaven, and in earth, in the seas and all deep places.

He bringeth up clouds from the ends of the earth; He made lightnings for the rain; He bringeth the winds out of His treasuries.

Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, from man to beast.

He sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O Egypt; unto Pharao, and unto all his servants.

Who smote many nations, and slew mighty kings:

Sehon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Basan; and all the kingdoms of Chanaan.

And gave their lands for an heritage, an heritage unto Israel His people.

Thy name, O Lord, endureth for ever; and Thy memorial unto generation and generation.

For the Lord will judge His people, and comfort Himself because of His servants.

The idols of the heathen are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

They have a mouth, but they speak not; eyes have they, but they see not.

They have ears, but they hear not; neither is there any breath in their mouths.

Let those who make them be like unto them, and every one that trusteth in them.

Bless the Lord, O house of Israel: bless the Lord, O house of Aaron: bless the Lord, O house of Levi.

Ye that fear the Lord, bless the Lord.

Blessed be the Lord out of Sion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem.

PSALM 135

Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever.

O give thanks unto the God of gods; for His mercy endureth for ever.

O give thanks unto the Lord of lords; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him who alone hath done great wonders; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him that by wisdom made the heavens; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him that established the earth upon the waters; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him that alone made great lights; for His mercy endureth for ever.

The sun to rule the day; for His mercy endureth for ever.

The moon and the stars to rule the night; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him that smote Egypt in their firstborn; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And brought out Israel from among them; for His mercy endureth for ever.

With a strong hand, and with an upraised arm; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him which divided the Red Sea into parts; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And led Israel through the midst of it; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And overthrew Pharao and his host in the Red Sea; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him which led His people through the wilderness; for His mercy endureth for ever.

To Him which smote great kings; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And slew mighty kings; for His mercy endureth for ever.

Sehon, king of the Amorites; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And Og, the king of Basan; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And gave their land for an heritage; for His mercy endureth for ever.

Even an heritage unto Israel His servant; for His mercy endureth for ever.

For the Lord remembered us in our low estate; for His mercy endureth for ever.

And hath redeemed us from our enemies; for His mercy endureth for ever.

Who giveth food to all flesh; for His mercy endureth for ever.

O give thanks unto the God of heaven; for His mercy endureth for ever.

PSALM 136

For David. By Jeremias, in the Captivity.

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Sion.

We hanged our instruments upon the willows in the midst thereof.

For there they that had taken us captive required of us words of a song.

And they that had carried us away asked us for a hymn, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Sion.

How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?

If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand be forgotten.

Let my tongue cleave to my throat if I remember thee not,

If I prefer not Jerusalem above all others as my chief joy.

Remember, O Lord, the children of Edom, in the day of Jerusalem.

Who said, Raze it, raze it, even to the foundations thereof.

O wretched daughter of Babylon, blessed shall he be that shall reward thee as thou hast rewarded us.

Blessed shall he be who shall seize and dash thy little ones against the rock.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 137

David's. Of Aggeus and Zacharias.

I will give Thee thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart: and before angels will I sing praise unto Thee; for Thou hast heard all the words of my mouth.

I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and give thanks unto Thy name, for Thy mercy and Thy truth; for Thou hast magnified Thy holy name above all that is.

In whatsoever day that I shall call upon Thee, hear me speedily; Thou shalt endue my soul abundantly with Thy strength.

Let all the kings of the earth give Thee thanks, O Lord, for they have heard all the words of Thy mouth.

Yea, let them sing in the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

For the Lord is high, yet hath He regard unto the lowly; but the proud He knoweth from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, Thou wilt revive me; Thou hast stretched forth Thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and Thy right hand hath saved me.

The Lord shall repay for me; Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever; despise not the work of Thy hands.

PSALM 138

Unto the end: a Psalm of Zacharias in the Diaspora.

O Lord, Thou hast proved me, and Thou knowest me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising; Thou hast understood my thoughts afar off.

Thou hast searched out my path and my lot, and hast foreseen all my ways; for there is no guile upon my tongue.

Behold, O Lord, Thou knowest all things, the last and the first; Thou hast fashioned me, and laid Thine hand upon me.

Thy knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is great, I cannot attain unto it.

Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit? and whither shall I flee from Thy presence?

If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there; if I go down into hell, Thou art there present.

If I take up my wings to the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.

And I said, Surely the darkness shall cover me, and in my pleasure shall the night be turned to day.

For darkness will not be darkness with Thee, but night shall be bright as day; as is the darkness, even so shall be the light thereof.

For Thou hast possessed my reins; Thou hast holpen me, O Lord, from my mother's womb.

I will give Thee thanks, for Thou art wondrous and fearful; marvellous are Thy works, and my soul knoweth it well.

My bones are not hid from Thee, which Thou hast made in secret; nor my substance in the lowest parts of the earth.

Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in Thy book shall all mankind be written; daily are they fashioned, when as yet there be none of them.

How honoured also are Thy friends unto me, O Lord! their rule is greatly strengthened.

I will number them, and they shall be multiplied in number more than the sand; when I awake, I am still with Thee.

Surely Thou wilt slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, ye bloody men. For Thou shalt say of their thought, They shall take Thy cities in vain.

Have not I hated them, O Lord, that hate Thee? and have I not pined away because of Thine enemies?

I have hated them with a perfect hatred, and they are counted mine enemies.

Prove me, O Lord, and know my heart; try me, and know my ways.

And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

PSALM 139

Unto the end: a Psalm of David.

Rescue me, O Lord, from the evil man; deliver me from the unrighteous man,

Who have imagined injustice in their heart; all the day long have they prepared for war.

They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; the poison of asps is under their lips.

Keep me, O Lord, from the hand of the sinner; rescue me from the unjust men, who have purposed to overthrow my goings.

The proud have hid a snare for me and spread a net with cords for my feet; they have set stumbling blocks for me beside the way.

I said unto the Lord, Thou art my God; hear the voice of my supplication, O Lord.

O Lord, Lord, the strength of my salvation, Thou hast covered my head in the day of battle.

Deliver me not, O Lord, to the sinner, according to my desire. They have consulted against me; forsake me not, lest they be exalted.

As for the head of those that compass me about, the mischief of their lips shall cover them.

Coals will fall upon them; Thou shalt cast them down into the fire, and they shall not stand in their afflictions.

A babbling man shall not prosper upon the earth; evils shall hunt an unrighteous man unto destruction.

I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the needy, and the right of the poor.

Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto Thy name, and the upright shall dwell in Thy presence.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 140

A Psalm of David.

Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hear Thou me; give ear unto the voice of my supplication when I cry unto Thee.

Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as incense, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a strong door about my lips.

Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuse with pretexts for sins with men that work iniquity; I shall not join with their chosen.

The righteous shall chasten me with mercy, and reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.

For yet is my prayer continually in the presence of their pleasures; their judges have been swallowed up against the rock.

They will hear my words, for they are sweet; as when a clod of earth is broken up upon the ground, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hell.

But mine eyes are unto Thee, Lord, O Lord; in Thee have I hoped; take not away my soul.

Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the stumbling blocks of the workers of iniquity.

The wicked shall fall into their own net; I am alone, until that I pass hence.

PSALM 141

Instruction by David, when he was in the cave praying.

I cried unto the Lord with my voice; with my voice unto the Lord did I make supplication.

I will pour out my supplication before Him; I will show before Him my trouble.

When my spirit was fainting within me, then Thou knewest my paths; in this way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me.

I looked on my right hand, and beheld; but there was none that knew me.

Flight failed me, and there is none that watcheth for my soul.

I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said, Thou art my hope, my portion in the land of the living.

Attend unto my supplication, for I am brought very low.

Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy name.

The righteous shall await me, until Thou shalt reward me.

PSALM 142

Of David. When his son Abbesalom pursued him.

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hear me in Thy righteousness.

And enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life to the ground.

He hath sat me in darkness, as those that have been long dead; and my spirit hath fainted within me, my heart within me is troubled.

I remembered the days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I considered the works of Thy hands.

I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee as a thirsty land.

Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away.

Turn not Thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.

Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning, for in Thee have I put my trust.

Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I have lifted up my soul unto Thee.

Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies; I have fled unto Thee for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.

Thy good Spirit shall lead me into the land of uprightness; Thou shalt quicken me, O Lord, for Thy name's sake.

In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of trouble, and of Thy mercy shalt Thou cut off mine enemies.

And Thou shalt destroy all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE TWENTIETH KATHISMA

PSALM 143

Of David, referring to Goliad.

Blessed be the Lord my God, who teacheth my hands to battle, and my fingers to fight.

My mercy, and my refuge; my help, and my deliverer.

My defender, in whom I have hoped; who hath subdued my people under me.

Lord, what is man, that Thou art made known unto him? or the son of man, that Thou makest account of him?

Man is like to vanity; his days as a shadow pass away.

Bow the heavens, O Lord, and come down; touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

Cast forth lightning, and Thou shalt scatter them; send out Thine arrows, and Thou shalt trouble them.

Send Thine hand from above; rid me, and deliver me out of great waters, from the hand of strange children,

Whose mouth hath spoken vanity, and their right hand is the right hand of iniquity.

I will sing a new song unto Thee, O God; upon a psaltery of ten strings will I sing praises unto Thee;

Who givest salvation unto kings; who deliverest David Thy servant from the evil sword.

Rid me, and deliver me from the hand of strange children, whose mouth hath spoken vanity, and their right hand is the right hand of iniquity.

Whose sons are like new plants, strongly planted in their youth; their daughters decked out, adorned after the fashion of a temple.

Their garners full, flowing out with all manner of store;

Their sheep fruitful with young, abounding in their gateways; their oxen fat.

There is no breach of wall or passage, neither any crying in their streets.

They have called the people blessed that is in such a case; but blessed is that people whose God is the Lord.

PSALM 144

Of David. A Psalm of praise.

I will exalt Thee, O God my king, and I will bless Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and there is no end of His greatness.

Generation and generation shall praise Thy works, and shall declare Thy might.

They shall speak of the majesty of the glory of Thy holiness, and shall tell of Thy wondrous works.

And they shall speak of the might of Thy marvellous acts, and shall tell of Thy majesty.

They shall utter the memory of the abundance of Thy goodness, and shall rejoice in Thy righteousness.

The Lord is full of compassion, and merciful; longsuffering, and of great mercy.

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

Let all Thy works praise Thee, O Lord, and let Thy saints bless Thee.

They shall speak of the glory of Thy kingdom, and tell of Thy dominion.

To make known to the sons of men Thy dominion, and the glorious majesty of Thy kingdom.

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Thy dominion endureth in every generation and generation.

The Lord is faithful in all His words, and holy in all His works.

The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

The eyes of all look to Thee in hope, and Thou givest them their meat in due season.

Thou openest Thine hand, and fillest with Thy favour every living thing.

The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth.

He will fulfil the desire of them that fear Him; He also will hear their cry, and will save them.

The Lord preserveth all them that love Him, but all the wicked will He destroy.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; and let all flesh bless His holy name for ever and ever.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 145

Alleluia. Of Aggeus and Zacharias.

Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord; I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Put not your trust in princes, nor in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.

His spirit shall go forth, and he shall return to his earth.

In that very day shall all his thoughts perish.

Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God;

Who made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is.

Which keepeth faith for ever, which executeth judgment for the wronged, which giveth food to the hungry.

The Lord looseth the fettered; the Lord openeth the eyes of the blind; the Lord raiseth up the fallen; the Lord loveth the righteous; the Lord preserveth the strangers.

He shall take for His own the fatherless and widow, but the way of the wicked shall He destroy.

The Lord shall reign for ever; even thy God, O Sion, from generation to generation.

PSALM 146

Alleluia. Of Aggeus and Zacharias.

Praise ye the Lord, for a psalm is good; let praise be sweet unto our God.

The Lord doth build up Jerusalem; He shall gather together the outcasts of Israel.

He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

He telleth the multitude of the stars, and calleth them all by their name.

Great is our Lord, and great is His power; and His understanding is infinite.

The Lord lifteth up the meek, but casteth the wicked down to the ground.

Begin your song unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto God,

Who covereth the heavens with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth,

Who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains, and green herb for the service of man,

He giveth to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens which cry unto Him.

He shall not delight in the strength of a horse, neither taketh He pleasure in the legs of a man.

The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear Him, and in those that hope in His mercy.

PSALM 147

Alleluia. Of Aggeus and Zacharias.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Sion.

For He hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; He hath blessed thy children within thee.

He bringeth peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the fat of the wheat.

He sendeth forth His commandment to the earth; His word runneth very swiftly.

He giveth His snow like wool; He scattereth the mist like ashes.

He casteth forth His ice like morsels; who can stand before His cold?

He shall send out His word, and melt them; His wind shall blow, and the waters shall flow.

He showeth His word unto Jacob, His statutes and His judgments unto Israel.

He hath not dealt so with every nation, neither hath He shown His judgments unto them.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

PSALM 148

Alleluia. Of Aggeus and Zacharias.

Praise ye the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights.

Praise ye Him, all His angels; praise ye him, all His hosts.

Praise ye Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all ye stars and light.

Praise Him, ye heaven of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord; for He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created.

He hath stablished them for ever and ever; He hath made a decree, and it shall not pass.

Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all deeps.

Fire, and hail, snow, and ice, stormy wind, fulfilling His word;

Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars;

Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and winged fowl;

Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth;

Both young men and maidens; old men, and children;

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted.

His praise is above the heaven and earth; He also shall exalt the horn of His people,

A hymn for all His saints; even for the children of Israel, the people that are near unto Him.

PSALM 149

Alleluia.

Sing unto the Lord a new song, His praise in the congregation of the saints.

Let Israel rejoice in Him that made him, and let the children of Sion be joyful in their king.

Let them praise His name in the dance; let them sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and psaltery.

For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and shall exalt the meek with salvation.

The saints shall be joyful in glory, and shall rejoice upon their beds.

The high praises of God shall be in their mouth, and two-edged swords in their hands;

To execute vengeance among the heathen, and punishments among the people;

To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

To execute among them the judgment written; this glory shall be for all His saints.

PSALM 150

Alleluia.

Praise God in His holy ones; praise Him in the firmament of His power.

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with the stringed instrument and flute.

Praise Him with the tuneful cymbals; praise Him with the joyful cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

A PSALM

This Psalm is one written by David's own hand, though it is not numbered with the one hundred and fifty psalms. Composed when he fought in single combat with Goliad.

I was the smallest among my brethren, and the youngest in the house of my father; I shepherded the sheep of my father.

My hands made an instrument, and my fingers fashioned a psaltery.

And who shall tell my Lord? The Lord Himself shall hearken.

He sent His angel, and took me from my father's flocks, and anointed me with the oil of His anointing.

My brethren were big and good, but the Lord took not pleasure in them.

I went forth to meet the stranger, but he cursed me by his idols.

But I drew his own sword, and cut off his head; and I took away the reproach from the children of Israel.

THE NINE ODES

THE FIRST ODE

An Ode of Moses in the Exodus.
(Exodus 15: 1-19)

When he had drowned Pharao in the deep, Moses said, Let us sing unto the Lord, for He is gloriously glorified.

Let us sing unto the Lord, for He is gloriously glorified; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

He was to me a helper and protector for salvation. He is my God, and I will glorify Him; my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

The Lord bringing wars to nought; the Lord is His name.

Pharao's chariots and his hosts hath He cast into the sea; the chosen mounted captains hath He plunged into the Red Sea.

He covered them with the sea; they sank into the depths as a stone.

Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorified in power; Thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy; and in the greatness of Thy glory hast Thou overthrown them that rose up against Thee.

Thou sentest forth Thy wrath; it consumed them as stubble.

And with the breath of Thine anger the waters parted asunder; the waters were congealed as a wall, the waves were congealed in the midst of the sea.

The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, I will satisfy my soul, I will destroy with my sword; my right hand shall have the dominion.

Thou sentest forth Thy wind, the sea covered them; they sank as lead in the mighty water.

Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, marvellous in glories, doing wonders?

Thou stretchedst out Thy right hand; the earth swallowed them.

Thou in Thy righteousness hast guided this Thy people which Thou hast redeemed; Thou calledst them in Thy strength unto Thy holy habitation.

The heathen heard, and were angry; pangs took hold upon the inhabitants of Philistia.

For 8 verses

Then the princes of Edom made haste, the princes also of the Moabites; trembling took hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Chanaan melted away.

Let fear and trembling fall upon them; by the greatness of Thine arm let them become as stone,

For 6 verses

Till Thy people pass over, O Lord; till they pass over, this people, which Thou hast purchased.

Bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of Thine inheritance; in the place, O Lord, which Thou hast made for Thee to dwell in, in the sanctuary which Thy hands have established.

For 4 verses

The Lord reigning for ever and ever.

For the horse of Pharao went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the Lord brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry ground in the midst of the sea.

Glory. Both now.

THE SECOND ODE

It should be noted that the Second Ode is never chanted, except only in Great Lent, during which on Tuesday only it is chanted to the end. And for each of the troparia of the Second Ode of the Canon we say, Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

An Ode of Moses in the Deuteronomy.
(Deut. 32: 1-43)

After the Law had been written, again an Ode of Moses.

Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and let the earth hear the words of my mouth.

Let my teaching be looked for as the rain, and let my words come down as the dew, as the showers upon the grass, and as the snow upon the green herb.

For I have called upon the name of the Lord. Ascribe ye majesty unto our God.

As for our God, His works are faithful, and all His ways are judgment.

God is faithful, and there is no unrighteousness in Him; just and holy is the Lord.

They have sinned; spotted children are not His. O perverse and crooked generation, do ye thus requite the Lord?

This is a foolish people, and unwise; did not He Himself thy Father take thee for His own, and make thee, and fashion thee?

Remember the days of old, consider the years of generations and generations.

Ask thy father, and he will show thee; thine elders, and they will tell thee.

When the Most High divided the nations, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the peoples according to the number of the angels of God.

And Jacob His people became the Lord's portion; Israel was the lot of His inheritance.

He filled him with abundance in the wilderness, in burning thirst, and in a dry land.

He led him about, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye.

As an eagle watcheth over his nest, and yearneth over his young, and spreading abroad his wings, receiveth them, and taketh them up upon his back;

So the Lord alone did lead them, and there was no strange God with them.

He brought them up on the strength of the land; He fed them with the increase of the fields.

He suckled them with honey out of the rock, and oil out of the solid rock,

Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs and rams, of calves and kids, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and they drank wine, the blood of the grape.

So Jacob ate, and was filled; and the beloved one kicked, he waxed fat, he grew thick and broad; then he forsook God which made him, and departed from God his Saviour.

They moved Me to anger with strange gods, and embittered Me with their abominations.

They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not; new and fresh gods came in, whom their fathers knew not.

Thou hast forsaken God that begot thee, and hast forgotten God that feedeth thee.

And the Lord saw, and was jealous; and was provoked by the anger of His sons and daughters.

And He said, I will hide My face from them, and I will show what will come upon them in the latter days; for it is a perverse generation, sons in whom there is no faith.

They have moved Me to jealousy with that which is not God, they have provoked Me to anger with their idols; and I will move them to jealousy with that which is not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.

For a fire is kindled in Mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest hell; I will consume them, and the land, with its increase; it shall set on fire the foundations of the mountains.

I will heap mischiefs upon them, I will perfect mine arrows against them.

They shall consume away in famine, and the devouring of birds; the bending down of their backs shall be irremediable; I will send forth the teeth of beasts upon them, with the wrath of creeping things upon the ground.

The sword without shall bereave them of children, and fear shall issue out of their inner chambers. The young man shall perish with the maiden, the suckling with him that hath long been old.

I said, I would scatter them, I would make the remembrance of them to cease from among men,

Were it not for the wrath of the enemy, lest their adversaries should live long, and join against them;

Lest they should say, Our own high hand, and not the Lord, hath done all this.

For it is a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them; they have not the wit to understand all this.

Let them admit this in a time that is to come,

How shall one chase a thousand, and two put tens of thousands to flight, except that God yielded them up, and the Lord surrendered them?

For their gods are not as our God; and our enemies are void of understanding.

For their vine is of the vine of Sodom, and their vine branch of Gomorra; their grape is a grape of gall; their cluster is one of bitterness to them.

Their wine is the rage of serpents, and the incurable rage of asps.

Lo, is not all this laid up in store with Me, and sealed up among My treasures?

In the day of vengeance will I recompense, whensoever their foot shall stumble, for the day of their calamity is at hand. And the things prepared for you are close at hand.

For the Lord shall judge His people, and shall be comforted over His servants.

For He saw that they were palsied, and had failed in their invasion, and that they were become feeble.

And the Lord said, Where are their gods, in whom they trusted?

The fat of whose sacrifices ye ate, and drank the wine of their drink-offerings? Let them rise up and help you, and be your protectors.

Behold now, behold, I am, and there is no God with Me. I will kill, and make alive; I will smite, and I will heal; neither is there any that can deliver out of My hands.

For I will lift up Mine hand unto heaven, and swear by My right hand; and I will say, I live for ever.

For I will sharpen My sword like lightning, and Mine hand shall take hold on judgment; I will render judgment to Mine enemies, and will reward them that hate Me.

I will make Mine arrows drunk with blood, and My sword shall devour flesh, on the blood of the wounded, and of the captivity of the heads of the princes of the enemy.

Rejoice in Him, O ye heavens, and let all the angels of God worship Him.

Rejoice, O ye heathen, with His people, and let all the sons of God be strengthened in him; for He will avenge the blood of His sons, and will render judgment and vengeance upon His enemies; and He will reward them that hate Him; and the Lord shall purge the land of His people.

Glory. Both now.

THE THIRD ODE

A prayer of Anna, the mother of Samuel the Prophet.
(1 Kings 2: 1-10)

The barren one wonderfully beareth a son and praiseth God,
Holy art Thou, O Lord, and my spirit praiseth Thee.

My heart is established in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in my God, my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; I rejoice in Thy salvation.

For there is none holy as the Lord, for there is none that is righteous as our God, and there is none holy beside Thee.

Boast not, and utter not proud things, let not arrogance come out of Thy mouth.

For the Lord is a God of knowledge, and a God that prepareth His own ways.

The bow of the mighty hath waxed feeble, and the weak have girded themselves with strength.

They that were full of bread have sunk to lowliness, and the hungry have rested in the land; for the barren hath borne seven, and she that had many children is waxed feeble.

The Lord killeth, and maketh alive; He bringeth down to hell, and bringeth up.

The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich; He bringeth low, and lifteth up.

He raiseth up the poor out of the earth, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to seat him with the mighty of the people; and He maketh him inherit the throne of glory.

For 8 verses

He granteth his petition unto him that prayeth, and hath blessed the years of the righteous.

For the mighty man shall not be strong in his own strength; the Lord shall weaken his adversary; the Lord is holy.

For 6 verses

Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, nor the mighty man in his strength; let not the rich man boast in his riches.

But him that boasteth, let him make his boast in this: that he hath understanding, and knoweth the Lord; and that He worketh judgment and righteousness in the midst of the earth.

For 4 verses

The Lord hath gone up into the heavens, and hath thundered; he shall judge the ends of the earth, for He is righteous.

And He shall give strength unto our kings, and exalt the horn of His anointed.

Glory. Both now.

THE FOURTH ODE

A prayer of Avvacum the Prophet.
(Avv. 3: 2-19)

Declare, O Avvacum, the Word's kenosis. Glory be to Thy power, O Lord.

O Lord, I have heard Thy report, and was afraid; O Lord, I considered Thy works, and was amazed.

Between the two living creatures shalt Thou be known; when the years draw nigh, Thou shalt be acknowledged; when the season cometh, Thou shalt be shown forth; when my soul is troubled, in Thine anger shalt Thou remember mercy.

God shall come from Theman, and the Holy One from the shady and densely wooded mountain.

His virtue hath covered the heavens, and the earth was full of His praise.

And His brightness shall be as the light; horns are in His hands, and He hath established a mighty love of His strength.

Before His face shall the Word proceed, and He shall go forth for instruction at His feet.

He stood, and the earth was moved; He beheld, and the heathen melted away.

The mountains were burst asunder violently, the everlasting hills melted away at His eternal going forth.

I looked upon the tents of the Ethiopians because of troubles; the tabernacles also of the land of Madiam were dismayed.

Wast Thou angry, O Lord, with the rivers; or was Thy wrath against the rivers, or Thine attack against the sea? For Thou wilt mount upon Thine horses, and Thy chariots are salvation.

Thou shalt bend thy bow, thou shalt bend it against sceptres; the land of rivers shall be rent asunder, saith the Lord.

They shall see Thee, and the nations shall be in travail, while Thou scatterest the courses of the waters; the deep uttered her voice, and lifted up the height of her form on high.

The sun was lifted up, and the moon stood still in her course; at the light Thy darts shall go forth, at the brightness of the gleaming of Thy weapons.

With threatening shalt Thou bring low the earth, and in anger shalt Thou break down the nations.

Thou wentest forth for the salvation of Thy people, Thou art come to save Thine anointed ones. Thou didst bring death upon the heads of the transgressors, Thou didst bring bands upon their neck.

Thou didst cut asunder the heads of the mighty with fury; they shall tremble in themselves, they shall burst their bridles, as the poor man devouring in secret.

And Thou hast mounted upon Thine horses in the sea, and they trouble the many waters.

I kept watch, and my belly was troubled, at the voice of the prayer of my lips; and trembling entered into my bones, and my strength was troubled within me.

I will rest in the day of mine affliction, that I may go up to the people of my sojourning.

For 8 verses

For the fig tree shall not bear fruit, and there shall be no increase for the vines.

The labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall bear no food.

For 6 verses

The sheep have failed from their pasture, and there are no oxen at the cribs.

But I will be glad in the Lord; I will rejoice in God my Saviour.

For 4 verses

The Lord is my God and my strength, and He will instruct my feet unto perfection.

He mounteth me upon high places, that I may conquer by His song.

Glory. Both now.

THE FIFTH ODE

A prayer of Isaias the Prophet.
(Is. 26: 9-20)

Isaias' prophecy, which is also his prayer. O Lord our God, grant us peace.

Out of the night my spirit waketh at dawn unto Thee, O God; for Thy commandments are a light upon the earth.

Learn righteousness, all ye that dwell upon the earth.

For the ungodly man hath come to an end; every one that learneth not righteousness upon the earth shall not be able to do truth; let the ungodly be taken away, that he may not see the glory of the Lord.

O Lord, Thine arm is lifted up, and they knew it not; but when they know it, let them be put to shame.

Zeal shall lay hold upon an untaught people, and now fire shall devour the adversaries.

O Lord our God, bestow Thy peace upon us, for Thou hast given all things unto us.

O Lord our God, take us for Thy possession. O Lord, we know no other beside Thee; we call upon Thy name.

But the dead shall not see life, neither shall physicians raise them up; therefore hast Thou brought wrath upon them, and hast slain them, and hast taken every man of them away.

Bring more evils upon them, Lord; bring more evils upon them that are glorious upon the earth.

O Lord, in trouble we remembered Thee; with small affliction was Thy chastening with us.

For 8 verses

And as a woman in travail draweth nigh to be delivered, and crieth out in her travail, so have we become in the presence of Thy beloved.

We have conceived, O Lord, because of Thy fear, and have suffered pangs, and have brought forth the spirit of Thy salvation, which we have wrought upon the earth.

For 6 verses

We shall not fail, but all those that dwell upon the earth shall fail.

The dead shall arise, and they that are in the tomb shall awake, and they that are upon the earth shall rejoice.

For 4 verses

For the dew which Thou sendest is healing unto them; but the land of the ungodly shall perish.

Go, my people, enter into thine inner chamber, shut thy door, hide thyself for a little season, until the anger of the Lord shall pass away.

Glory. Both now.

THE SIXTH ODE

A prayer of Jonas the prophet (Jon. 2: 3-10)

As Thou didst save the prophet Jonas, save us also. O Lord.
From out of the sea monster Jonas cried aloud and said,

I cried unto the Lord in mine affliction, and He hearkened unto me; Thou heardest my cry and my voice out of the belly of hell.

Thou didst cast me away into the depths of the heart of the sea, and the waves compassed me about.

All Thy waves and billows have passed over me.

For 8 verses

And I said, I am cast out from the sight of Thine eyes; shall I indeed I look again unto Thy holy temple?

Water is poured about me, even to my soul; the uttermost deep hath compassed me about; my head went down into the clefts of the mountains; I went down into the earth, whose bars are everlasting barriers.

For 6 verses

But let my soul come up from corruption, unto Thee, O Lord my God.

When my soul was failing within me, I remembered the Lord; yea, let my prayer come unto Thee, unto Thy holy temple.

For 4 verses

Those who observe vanities and false things have forsaken their own mercy.

But I will sacrifice to Thee with the voice of praise and thanksgiving; whatsoever I have vowed for my salvation, I will pay unto Thee, O Lord.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

THE SEVENTH ODE

A prayer of the holy three children.
(Dan. 3: 26-56)

The praise of the three youths putteth out the flame.
Blessed art Thou, our God, and the God of our fathers.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers; and praised and glorified is Thy name for ever.

For Thou art righteous in all the things that Thou hast done for us; yea, true are all Thy works, and upright are Thy ways, and all Thy judgments are true.

In all the things that Thou hast brought upon us, and upon Jerusalem the holy city of our fathers, Thou hast executed true judgments; for according to truth and judgment didst Thou bring all these things upon us because of our sins.

For we have sinned and committed iniquity, departing from Thee, and in all things wherein we have sinned greatly; and we have not hearkened unto Thy commandments, nor heeded them; neither have we done as Thou hast commanded us, that it might go well with us.

Wherefore all that Thou hast done to us, and all that Thou hast brought upon us, Thou hast done in true judgment; and Thou hast delivered us into the hands of lawless enemies, and of most wicked forsakers of God, and to an unrighteous king, and the most wicked in all the world.

And now we cannot open our mouth; we are become a shame and reproach to Thy servants, and to them that worship Thee.

Deliver us not up for ever, for Thy holy name's sake, neither forget Thou Thy covenant; and take not away Thy mercy from us, for the sake of Thy beloved Abraham, and Isaac Thy servant, and Israel Thy holy one;

To whom Thou hast said that Thou wouldest multiply their seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand that lieth upon the seashore.

For we, O Lord our King and Master, are become the least of all the heathen, and we are brought low in all the earth this day because of our sins.

Nor is there at this time prince, or prophet, or leader, or whole-burnt offering, or sacrifice, or oblation, or incense, nor place of first-fruits before Thee, that we may obtain mercy.

Nevertheless, in a contrite soul and an humble spirit let us be accepted.

Like as in the burnt offerings of rams and bullocks, and like as ten thousands of fat lambs, so let our sacrifice this day be acceptable in Thy sight; and hereafter let it be performed before Thee; for there is no shame to them that put their trust in Thee.

And now we follow Thee with our whole heart, and we fear Thee, and we seek Thy face; put us not to shame.

But deal with us according to Thy tenderness, and according to the multitude of Thy mercy.

Deliver us according to Thy marvellous works, and give glory to Thy name, O Lord.

And let all them that do Thy servants' hurt be confounded, and let them be ashamed, and deprived of all their might; and let their strength be broken.

And let them know that Thou art the Lord, the only God, and glorious over all the world.

And the king's servants, that put them in, ceased not to make the furnace hot with brimstone, pitch and tow, and wood of the vine.

And the flame mounted up above the furnace forty and nine cubits; and it brake forth, and wrapped in flames those Chaldeans found about the furnace.

But the angel of the Lord came down to be with Azarias and his companions in the furnace, and drove the flame of the fire out of the furnace.

And made the midst of the furnace as it had been the blowing of a wind bringing dew, and the fire touched them not at all, nor brought grief, nor troubled them.

Then the three, as out of one mouth, praised, and blessed, and glorified God in the furnace, saying,

The hymn of the three, which the youths sang.

For 8 verses

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and to be praised and exalted above all for ever.

And blessed is Thy glorious and holy name, which is highly praised and exalted above all for ever.

For 6 verses

Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy holy glory, and to be praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art Thou that beholdest the depths, that sittest upon the cherubim, Thou that art praised and exalted above all for ever.

For 4 verses

Blessed art Thou on the glorious throne of Thy kingdom, Thou that art praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art Thou in the firmament of heaven, Thou that art praised and exalted above all for ever.

Glory. Both now.

THE EIGHTH ODE

The hymn of the holy three children.
(Dan. 3: 57-88)

Praise the Lord, ye creatures which He hath made.
Praise the Lord, ye works of His, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, all ye angels of the Lord, and ye heavens of the Lord: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, all ye waters that are above the heavens, and all ye powers of the Lord: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye sun and moon, and ye stars of heaven: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, every shower and dew, and all ye winds: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye fire and heat, ye winter cold and summer heat: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye falls of dew and snow, ye ice and cold: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye frosts and snows, ye lightning and clouds: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye light and darkness, ye night and day: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye earth, ye mountains and hills, and all things that spring up therein: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye fountains, ye seas and floods, ye monsters of the sea, and all things that move in the waters: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, all ye winged creatures of the air, ye beasts and all cattle: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye sons of men; let Israel bless the Lord: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

For 8 verses

Bless the Lord, O ye priests of the Lord, ye servants of the Lord: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, ye holy and humble of heart: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

For 6 verses

Bless the Lord, O Ananias, Azarias and Misael: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Bless the Lord, O ye apostles, ye prophets and martyrs of the Lord: praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

For 4 verses

Let us bless the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Lord: let us praise the Lord, and exalt Him above all for ever.

Let us praise, and bless, and worship the Lord: praising the Lord, and exalting Him above all for ever.

Glory. Both now.

THE NINTH ODE

The song of the Theotokos.
(Luke 1: 46-55)

The maiden mother praiseth her Son and God.
Let us magnify the Theotokos with hymns.

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For He that is mighty hath done to me great things, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on them that fear Him from generation to generation.

He hath showed strength with His arm, he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their heart.

He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and hath exalted them of low degree; He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent empty away.

He hath holpen His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy; as He spake to our fathers; to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

The prayer of Zacharias, the father of the Forerunner.
(Luke 1: 68-79)

Zacharias blesseth the birth of his son.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people,

And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David.

As He spake by the mouth of His holy prophets, which have been since the world began,

That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us,

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, and to remember His holy covenant,

For 8 verses

The oath which He sware to our father Abraham, that He would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies

Might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.

For 6 verses

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest; for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways,

To give knowledge of salvation unto His people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God,

For 4 verses

Whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

To guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory. Both now.

THE END

AND GLORY BE TO GOD

THE ORDER OF READING THE PSALTER

The Psalter is divided into twenty sections or *Kathismata*, which are read in the course of one week at Matins and Vespers, as follows:

1. *From 22nd September to 19th December, and from 15th January to the eve of the Saturday of the Prodigal Son (the Sunday falling fifteen days from the beginning of Lent):*

	Matins	*Vespers*
Sunday	*2,3,17*	
Monday	*4,5*	*6*
Tuesday	*7,8*	*9*
Wednesday	*10,11*	*12*
Thursday	*13,14*	*15*
Friday	*19,20*	*18*
Saturday	*16,17*	*1*

2. *During the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Sixth Weeks of Great Lent:*

	Matins	*First Hour*	*Third Hour*	*Sixth Hour*	*Ninth Hour*	*Vespers*
Sunday	*2,3,17*					
Monday	*4,5,6*		*7*	*8*	*9*	*18*
Tuesday	*10,11,12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*	*18*
Wednesday	*19,20,1*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*18*
Thursday	*6,7,8*	*9*	*10*	*11*	*12*	*18*
Friday	*13,14,15*		*19*	*20*		*18*
Saturday	*16,17*					*1*

3. *During the Fifth Week of Great Lent:*

	Matins	First Hour	Third Hour	Sixth Hour	Ninth Hour	Vespers
Sunday	2,3,17					
Monday	4,5,6		7	8	9	10
Tuesday	11,12,13	14	15	16	18	19
Wednesday	20,1,2	3	4	5	6	7
Thursday	8		9	10	11	12
Friday	13,14,15		19	20		18
Saturday	16,17					1

4. *During Great Week:*

	Matins	Third Hour	Sixth Hour	Vespers
Sunday	2,3,Polyeleos*			
Monday	4,5,6	7	8	18
Tuesday	9,10,11	12	13	18
Wednesday	14,15,16	19	20	18
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday	17			

** Psalms 134-5*

5. *From the Sunday of St. Thomas (the first after Easter) to 21st September; from 20th December to 14th January; and during the two weeks immediately preceding Great Lent:*

	Matins	Vespers
Sunday	2,3	17**
Monday	4,5	6
Tuesday	7,8	9
Wednesday	10,11	12
Thursday	13,14	15
Friday	19,20	18
Saturday	16,17	1

***or The Polyeleos (Psalms 134-5)*

The Psalter is not read from the Thursday of Great Week until the Saturday of Bright Week, when it is resumed for the Vespers of the Sunday.

Each section, or kathisma, is divided into three stases; after each stasis the following is sung or read:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God. (Thrice)
Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

But at the end of the whole section:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God. (Twice)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God our Hope, O Lord, glory to Thee.